1979-2009: 30 YEARS OF THE OFFICIAL **DOCTOR WHO MAGAZINE**

INSIDE! GIANT DOUBLE-SIDED POSTER! PLUS DVD BOX SETS MUST BE WON!

DOCTOR · WHO
MAGAZINE

BERNARD CRIBBINS
WILF'S VOW TO PROTECT THE DOCTOR TIL THE END!

JOHN SIMM
THE MASTER REVEALS HIS LATEST INSANE PLAN!

"It's a tale of the gods, really, but gods who are fallible..."

DAVID TENNANT

THE END IS HERE! THE TENTH DOCTOR SPEAKS OUT ABOUT HIS FINAL AMAZING ADVENTURE!

PLUS! THE TENTH DOCTOR'S FINAL COMIC STRIP STORY BEGINS!
THE CHRISTMAS INVASION! » RTD'S LAST PRODUCTION NOTES!

DWM 416 | 6 JAN 2010 | UK £4.99 | US $9.99
16>
9 770957 981998
Panini magazines

CHRISTMAS OFFER!

INFORMATION:
Prices have been sliced!

1979-2009: 30 YEARS OF THE OFFICIAL DOCTOR WHO MA
INSIDE! GIANT DOUBLE-SIDED POSTER! PLUS DVD BOX SETS MUST BE
DOCTOR · WHO
MAGAZINE
BERNARD CRIBBINS
WILF'S VOW TO PROTECT THE DOCTOR TIL THE END!
JOHN SIM
THE MASTER REVEALS LATEST INSANE PL
of the gods, really, gods who are fallible...
DAVID TENNANT
THE END IS HERE! THE TENTH DOCTOR SPEAKS OUT ABOUT HIS FINAL AMAZING ADVENTURE!
PLUS! THE TENTH DOCTOR'S FINAL COMIC STRIP STORY BEGINS! THE CHRISTMAS INVASION! » RTD'S LAST PRODUCTION NOTES!

» Subscribe by Direct Debit to DOCTOR · WHO MAGAZINE

1979-2009: 30 YEARS OF THE OFFICIAL DOCTOR WHO MAGAZINE
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW! COLIN BAKER ON FINALLY RECORDING HIS LOST STORIES!
DOCTOR · WHO
MAGAZINE
EATH
N MARS!
AY DUNCAN AND DAVID TENNANT ARE UNDER
URE AS THE WATER RISES ON BOWIE BASE ONE!
S! EXCLUSIVE COMPETITIONS! » THE NINTH DOCTOR!
» GHOSTS OF THE NORTHERN LINE! » THE PIRATE PLANET!

- » RECEIVE EACH ISSUE WITHOUT DELAY!
- » AVOID PRICE RISES DURING THE YEAR!
- » MAKE MASSIVE SAVINGS!

OPTION 1

13 ISSUES OF **DWM**
+ 3 **DWM** SPECIALS
PER YEAR
£47
SAVE OVER £25!

OPTION 2

13 ISSUES OF **DWM**
PER YEAR
£35
SAVE OVER £20!

DOCTOR WHO
STOP THE WEDDING!

Telephone enquiries:
0844 543 0058

Email:
drwho@subscription.co.uk

Subscribe today at:
www.subscription.co.uk/drwho/dw16 (Regular issues only)
www.subscription.co.uk/drwhospec/dw16 (Regular issues + Specials)
If prompted, enter the Source Code: **dw16**

HURRY!

THIS IS A LIMITED TIME OFFER ONLY, AND MUST END ON 7th JANUARY 2010!

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Offers available in the UK only. For overseas subscriptions call +44 1858 438868 or visit www.subscription.co.uk <www.subscription.co.uk/drwho>. Direct De offer only. The subscription hotline is open Monday-Friday 8.30am-9pm, and Saturday 10am-4pm. Calls from a BT landline will cost no more than 8p per minute, mobile tariffs may vary.

PULL TO OPEN

"He can't know if this means regeneration – or actual death..."

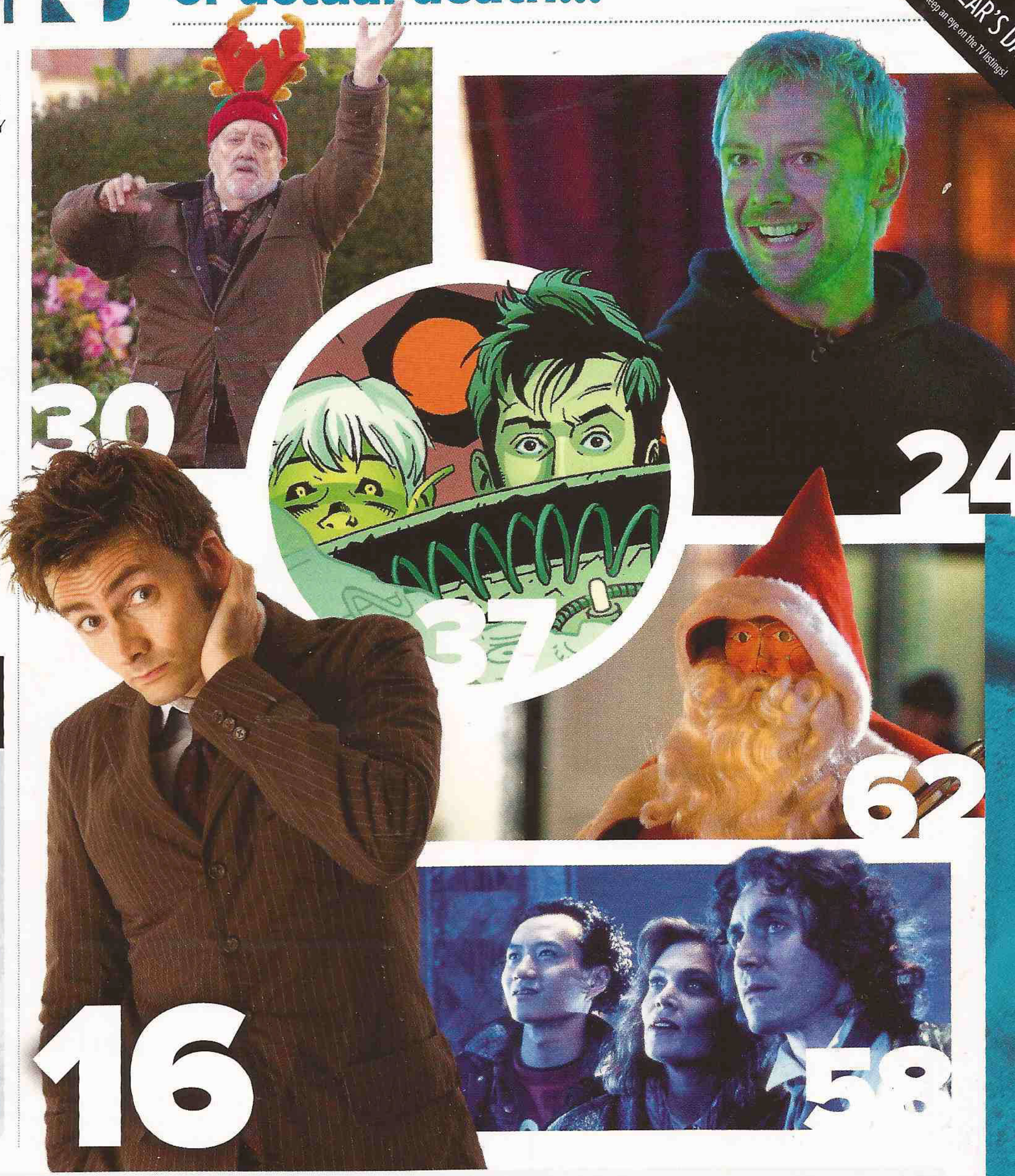
THE END OF TIME*
CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEAR'S D
*Not 100% confirmed at time of going to press – so keep an eye on the TV listings!

Christmas Crackers
6 THE END OF TIME PREVIEW
76 WATCHER'S CHRISTMAS QUIZ
78 GREAT CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY
80 SPACE-TIME TELEGRAPH

Interviews
16 DAVID TENNANT
24 JOHN SIMM
30 BERNARD CRIBBINS
82 NABIL SHABAN

Features
48 REVIEW OF 2009
52 THE WATCHER'S GUIDE TO THE TENTH DOCTOR
62 THE FACT OF FICTION: THE CHRISTMAS INVASION

Regulars
4 PRODUCTION NOTES
5 GALLIFREY GUARDIAN
12 AUDIO & DVD PREVIEWS
14 GALAXY FORUM
37 STRIP: CRIMSON HAND PART 1
47 YOU ARE NOT ALONE
58 THE TIME TEAM
69 THE DWM REVIEW



DOCTOR·WHO MAGAZINE

EDITOR TOM SPILSBURY
ASSISTANT EDITOR PETER WARE
DESIGNER PERI GODBOLD
DESIGN ASSISTANT GARY GILBERT

HEAD OF PRODUCTION MARK IRVINE
MANAGING EDITOR ALAN O'KEEFE
MANAGING DIRECTOR MIKE RIDDELL

THANKS TO John Ainsworth, Richard Atkinson, Matt Bannister, Nicholas Briggs, Bernard Cribbins, Russell T Davies, Barnaby Edwards, Julie Gardner, Ian Grutchfield, Jo Hadfield, Daniel Hall, Derek Handley, Clayton Hickman, John Kelly, Moray Laing, Lesley Land, Paul Lang, Jamie Lenman, Steven Moffat, Jonathan Morris, Mark Morris, Luke Morrison, Nicholas Pegg, Andrew Pixley, Justin Richards, David Richardson, Gareth Roberts, Steve Roberts, Edward Russell, Gary Russell, Nabil Shaban, John Simm, Tracie Simpson, Ted Spilsbury, Paul Spragg, Michael Stevens, Ed Stradling, David Tennant, Alex Thompson, Piers Wenger, Taylor Herring, Premier PR, BBC Worldwide and bbc.co.uk

DISPLAY ADVERTISING Orange 20 Advertising
EMAIL panini.adsales@o20.co.uk
SUBSCRIPTIONS Telephone 0844 543 0058
or email drwho@subscription.co.uk

Letter from the Editor

It's always hard to say goodbye – as many have noticed over the years. Um... Paul Anka and Celine Dion... Er, Boyz II Men... Oh dear, I'm even still sobbing at S Club's farewell single.

Anyway!

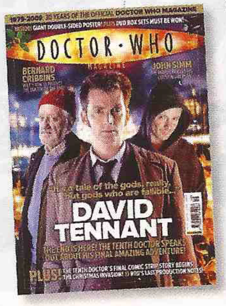
In just a few days now, we're going to have to say our goodbyes to the Tenth Doctor, as his final story airs this Christmas. What more can possibly be said about this most popular of Doctors? Well, hopefully this issue will act as an appropriate send-off, as we chat extensively to David Tennant himself, take a look back to his first ever adventure, *The Christmas Invasion* in *The Fact of Fiction*, and preview his last, *The End of Time*. Oh, and our faithful Watcher casts his watchful gaze over the Tenth Doctor's era, while Doctor Ten begins his final comic strip adventure, *The Crimson Hand*.

On a personal level, however, I'd like to thank David Tennant – not only for being the perfect Tenth Doctor, but also for being such a great supporter of **Doctor Who Magazine** over the last four years. If you take a look back over those issues, more often than not you'll find contributions from David himself. He has always welcomed us on set with open arms, happy to answer our silly questions about wasps and werewolves and weddings.

But even away from the *Doctor Who* set, David has always stuck up for **DWM**, most recently on BBC One's *Graham Norton Show*, rebutting a cynical Jonny Vegas, telling him how "packed" the mag is. (More than ever, this month – with a massive 84 pages, woo!)

Of course, it's not just David who we're saying goodbye to this issue – it's also Russell T Davies. I must thank Russell just as much as David, for his unwavering support of **DWM**, for fighting our corner more times than I can remember, and, needless to say, for five years of top-notch *Doctor Who*. I know from your letters how much you've enjoyed *Production Notes*, and all Russell's other contributions to the mag over the past six years. But what you *won't* know is how much Russell has done for us behind the scenes.

When *Doctor Who* returned to production in 2004, there were no automatic guarantees that **DWM** would be allowed on set, granted access to the actors, or invited to Tone Meetings and readthroughs. That **DWM** has been able to give you such thorough coverage of *Doctor Who* is thanks, in no small part, to Russell's influence.



So thank you Russell, and thank you David. I can't begin to repay the debt I owe you, and I'm incredibly proud to call you both my friends.

Happy Christmas, everyone!

Tom

Doctor Who Magazine™ Issue 416 Published December 2009 by Panini UK Ltd. Office of publication: Panini UK Ltd, Brockbourne House, 77 Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 8BS. Published every four weeks. All *Doctor Who* material is © BBCtv 2009. *Doctor Who* logo ™ & © BBC 2004. Daleks © Terry Nation. All other material is © Panini UK Ltd unless otherwise indicated. No similarity between any of the fictional names, characters persons and/or institutions herein with those of any living or dead persons or institutions is intended and any such similarity is purely coincidental. Nothing may be reproduced by any means in whole or part without the written permission of the publishers. This periodical may not be sold, except by authorised dealers, and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. All letters sent to this magazine will be considered for publication, but the publishers cannot be held responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, photographs or artwork. Writers' Guidelines are available by sending an SAE to the editorial address. More genuine extracts from The 3rd Dr Who's Twitter updates. 27 Feb: In court for Liz's industrial tribunal. She's claiming she was unfairly dismissed from UNIT. We'll see about that! 28 Feb: Apparently she has 'health and safety' concerns about dangling over a rushing weir in white plastic thigh boots! 1 Mar: Lost the case! The Brigadier has been fined £20! That halves UNIT's annual budget! Newstrade distribution: Marketforce (UK) Ltd 020 3148 3333. ISSN 0957-9818

PRODUCTION NOTES

Doctor Who's departing executive producer **Russell T Davies** writes his very last column for **DWM**. Sniff, blub!

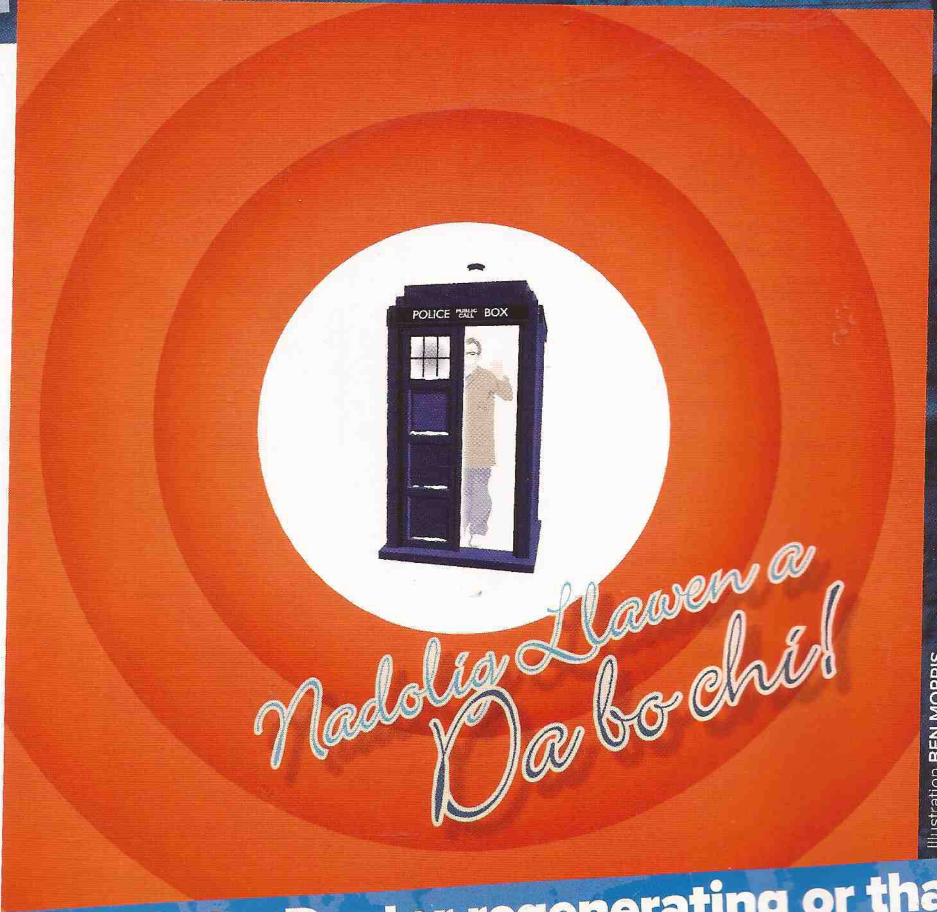


Illustration **BEN MORRIS**

HEY! NEVER MIND the Doctor regenerating, or that Tennant man's departure, let me tell you something far more important. This is my last *Production Notes*! Christmas is ruined, I know. Hmm, but I must think of a good, final word. Yes, I must ensure that the very last word I type for this page is wise and heartfelt and very, very me. So while I think on, here's my farewell *Doctor Who*-style *Twelve Days of Christmas*!

Twelve scenes a-labelling! The heading for scene 12 of Episode 4.17 says "INT. ICE CAVE". And in that scene, someone asks the Doctor, "The woman in the cage, who is she?" Exciting!

Eleven places a-locating! Scene 11 of *The End of Time*, Part Two is set in China. But not filmed there. We did it in Wales. *Cymru am byth!*

Ten Doctors a-counting! With the Eleventh on his way. What a Christmas gift. But who'd have thought, eh? Seriously, back in the 90s, this would have seemed so impossible. When I saw the first 30 seconds of *The End of Time*, Part Two, I thought: could I ever have imagined such a thing being shown on BBC One? Ever? Not in my wildest fantasy. And this will never stop being wonderful to me. Look at the glories to come! In 2010, I'll be sitting down for my first unknown series in 21 years! (I will post reviews under the name mightypen468, and start every sentence with 'I for one.' Or 'I41' on Twitter.)

"Never mind the Doctor regenerating or that Tennant man's departure – this is far more important. It's my last *Production Notes!*"

Nine locations a-showing! And we've got a scene 9 set in Geneva. It's global, this story, and then some! In fact, the very first shot starts on the Moon...

T DAVIES

PRODUCTION NOTES #1

THE SOUND OF SILENCE

"IN YEARS TO COME, THIS PERIOD WILL BE KNOWN AS THE GREAT PREVARICATION. A STRANGE, NEBULOUS LIMBO, LACKING A SINGLE SOLID FACT..."

Eight categories a-thinking! Just eight more paragraphs in this format, before I've got to choose my last word, my signature, my epitaph, something that sums up my very essence. Think think think, what can it be...?

Seven characters a-returning! Yes, seven come back in the finale, namely: the Master, Lucy, Donna, Wilf, Sylvia, Trinity Wells (of course) and who's the seventh...? It's Nerys! Donna's old friend and nemesis, Nerys! With Krystal Archer making a welcome return. Oh, and Donna's neighbour finally gets a name, that nice lady who keeps popping up, doing things like waving for joy when the air has cleared in *The Poison Sky*. She's called Sally!

Six words a-titling! When I said last issue that 4.17's title was six words long, it had a completely different name – *The Final Days of Planet Earth*. But then we saw it on screen and said, as one, 'Naaah.' Julie said, 'This story's too big! it needs Part One and Part Two!' So we broke our own rules, cos (a) that's what rules are for and (b) there are no rules anyway. Wild and radical, that's us!

Five go-old riiiiiiings! Love that bit.

Four knocks a-knocking! Love that bit even more! But what does it mean??! Who, why, where, knock-on-what when?!

Three decades a-passing! Recently, it was my honour to write a foreword for the 30th anniversary reprint of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. The publishers at Pan Macmillan showed me a letter from the archives, sent by a fan, to Douglas Adams, way back in 1979: "Go easy on the flippancy in *Doctor Who*. No galactic hitchhiker is he, but a Time Lord, a being for whom in our not too long-gone childhood we properly had greater reverence than irreverence. Of all the dimensions of the TARDIS, wit was never meant to be the largest." Well. Thank goodness things have changed, eh?

Two editors a-thanking! Huge thanks to Clayton Hickman, for inventing this page, and Tom Spilsbury, for continuing it. I've had a hoot! And thanks also to Ben Morris for his wonderful illustrations. Ah, good old **DWM**. As executive producer, I'm not supposed to promote merchandise. But now I've finished, I'm free to say, in all honesty: best magazine in the world!

And a banana skin upon the staircase! What? A what on the whatcase? How strange. Before I think of my final, fitting word for this page, let me just walk over there and pick up that dangerously-positioned peel. As long as I don't slip on it – waaaaaaah!!!

Bump!
Bump!
Bump!
Bump!
Bump!
Bump!
Bump!
Bump!
WHAM!

Groo. Argh. Hfff. Bananas are bad! Oh the pain. Is this death? But wait. My hand. It's glowing. Can it be? It's the end. But the carrot juice has been fantastic. And so was I.

FATOOOM!!!!!!!!!

Oh. Ooh. Ow. Och. Och? Och aye? Och aye the noo! Whit?! Crivvens. Jings. Hoots mon and help ma boab. Whit the wee mickle muckle mackle thistle kilt Supergran just happened? Oh ma heed. Mah poor wee tartan heed is full of strange beasties. Whit are they? Och! Nae! It cannae be!

Women!!

GALLIFREY GUARDIAN

All the latest news from every corner of the *Doctor Who* universe...

PLUS SPECIAL PREVIEW!

POLICE PUBLIC CALL BOX

Last Christmas...?

We all know that *The End of Time* is the Tenth Doctor's last adventure, but it's also the last to be written by **Russell T Davies**. **David Bailey** asks him how he feels about saying goodbye...

The End of Time is nearly here – and with it, the end of Russell T Davies' stint as *Doctor Who*'s head writer and executive producer. After being at the helm for five triumphant years, Russell is about to see the broadcast of his final two *Doctor Who* episodes – which also see the departure of star David Tennant.

As anyone who regularly reads **DWM** knows, *Doctor Who* has been a massive part of Russell's life. Surely it's hard to say goodbye to something like that?

"If it was *too* hard, I wouldn't be saying goodbye in the first place," he says. "It's too soon to get wistful and nostalgic – I'll leave that for the day after transmission. Right now, I'm more excited to see all this new stuff hit the screen – it's 135 minutes of brand new material! That's longer than most films! So much stuff to tell you about! Oh, let's see... There's a very funny cameo from Barry Howard [*who played Barry Stuart-Hargreaves in the BBC1 sitcom* Hi-De-Hi! *– Ed*]. The mad antics of the Vinvocci – two of my favourite aliens ever! The most revolting roast turkey scene you'll ever see. Timothy Dalton's narration! The Master's cleverest plan yet. Our biggest cliffhanger ever!

"And in all of this, I'm barely touching on Part Two," he adds. "Frankly, there are wonders to come, and it's your solemn duty to make every family, friend, enemy and stranger sit down to watch."

It might also be your duty to protect them from spoilers! As is usual for *Doctor Who*, the BBC is clamping down on what's released to the press.

"Secrets will spill out, as we head into that final week," Russell says. "The BBC is having a screening for Part One in mid-December, so that's bound to make the papers. Keep your head down!

"But we're not showing Part Two to anyone, so fingers crossed, its mysteries – including some heartbreaking scenes, dazzling action and some truly gobsmacking FX – will be kept secret until the last possible moment. Wish us luck!"

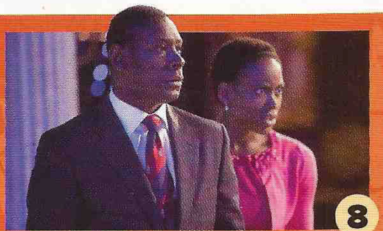
So, in amongst all the secrecy, the bustle of filming, the meetings and pre- and post-production, did Russell ever get a chance to stop and think, "This is it – my last *Doctor Who* script"?

"As ever, my first thought was 'I'm late!'," he laughs. "But really, I just thought of the kids watching. No matter how involved adults are, they're essentially aware of the handover from one actor to another, but to a child, this is huge. The Doctor is changing! It's history! And mythology! That acts as a great pressure, on all of us making the show – we're determined to never let those children down, and to make something they'll remember forever.

"I suppose some little part of my brain was ticking things off as I went along," he continues. "Last time I'll type 'TARDIS', last time with the sonic screwdriver, Donna's final words, and so on. I counted them all out! And I was a little bit sad, it's true, at every last stage. But that's a trivial aspect, really – my main aim was to deliver a great big Christmas story for BBC One. Now I hand it over, and it belongs to you lot!"

THE END OF TIME PREVIEW p6 »

ALSO INSIDE!



8 » THE END OF TIME IS NIGH! THE FULL CAST LIST REVEALED!

10 » SIXTIES DUO ON AUDIO! JAMIE AND ZOE REUNITED!

10 » THE TV MOVIE REVISITED! NEW DVD DOCUMENTARY!

2009 CHRISTMAS SPECIALS
THE END OF TIME

Time is Running Out...

... and *The End of Time* is approaching! Not only that, but it's the end of the Tenth Doctor too! Stand by for the ultimate showdown...

Words: **David Bailey**

Writer Russell T Davies **Director** Euros Lyn
Starring David Tennant, Bernard Cribbins, John Simm, Catherine Tate, David Harewood, Alexandra Moen, June Whitfield, Karl Collins, Timothy Dalton, Jacqueline King, and many, many more...

DON'T MISS!
FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER
& FRIDAY 1 JANUARY
BBC ONE & BBC HD

YOU WAIT AGES FOR ONE *Doctor Who* Special... After the seemingly never-ending drought through the summer months, the Doctor returned in November, in *The Waters of Mars*. And with that, the final adventures of the Tenth Doctor began to take shape. Now, things are coming thick and fast: we had a glimpse of the first few minutes of the next episode in last month's *Children in Need* night and now, as Christmas draws near, the anticipation is enough to make even the most world-weary among us tremble.

So, what's all the fuss about the two-part *The End of Time*? Oh, come on, you're fooling nobody...

"The Doctor went through hell, on Mars," says Russell T Davies, executive producer and writer of these two Specials. "I think it's important to note that the angry, vengeful Doctor glimpsed in that climax is gone – that was the point of Adelaide's death; she saved the future, and saved the Doctor from himself. He was brought back to his senses. And as you've seen from the *Children in Need* clip, a lot of the old, chipper Doctor has been restored. Which is only right and proper, because that's the Doctor we want to see in his final story – the classic hero, the good man, the lovely, funny, skinny fella in the suit and trainers.

"And as ever, there's a melancholy beneath the smile – he's still aware that he's facing the end of his song, and the ominous four knocks. He can't know whether this means regeneration, or actual death – and neither can you, cos we might still have some tricks up our sleeves!"

Of course, the world, his wife, his dog and the milkman are focusing on what will happen at the end of Part Two. But that's not even half the story – literally. There's a lot of action packed into these two Specials: the Doctor doesn't spend the whole thing moping about, waiting for the inevitable.

"One of my favourite things about this story is that it straddles the whole of Britain, on Christmas Day," Russell explains. "We've got the lonely and the lost, amongst the the homeless in the wastelands of London; we've got the comfortable family home, as the Nobles and Grandpa Mott settle down with the turkey, and at the far end of the scale, we've got the rich and powerful, with their obscene wealth. That's Mr Naismith, whose name was seen on the side of the bus in *Planet of the Dead*, as owner of a mobile phone company – it's all champagne and caviar for him, and he's planning a very unusual Christmas present for his daughter, Abigail. The Naismith Mansion is home to the mysterious Immortality Gate. Something

What gifts will the wealthy Abigail and Joshua Naismith (Tracy Ifeachor and David Harewood) receive this year...?

> **"It's the stuff we've never done before that's most fascinating – and attracts David as an actor..."**

which is troubling even the far-distant minds of the Ood, across Time and Space..."

Of course, as we saw in the *Children in Need* preview, our dear, old, brain-juggling friends have sensed a great many things troubling the timelines. Not just the Immortality Gate and the end of the Doctor's song – they've also sensed the return of the Doctor's greatest foe, the Master. This means the return of one of the greatest actors to have appeared in the series in recent years – and Russell couldn't have been happier to welcome him back to the set.

"Getting John Simm back was a privilege and an honour. God knows what I'd have done if he'd said no! Sandy the Sand Beast, probably, his revenge is due. But I always think of the Master as being the Doctor's opposite – and it's fascinating to realise how many different opposites you can have. In *The Sound of Drums* and *Last of the Time Lords*, he mirrored the Doctor by being powerful, suave and megalomaniac. Now, it's a new opposite – lost and raw and savage. Something's gone very wrong with his return – you'll have to watch to find out what! – but that X-ray effect seen in the trail, where he's all skull and bones, is just the start of the trouble.

"Imagine all the pent-up forces of a Time Lord body – artron energy, regeneration energy, all that stuff – ripping open and breaking loose. A dying Time Lord is a terrifying thing! So with the Master dying, the Doctor's end approaching, and both determined to survive, they're hurtling along an almighty collision course. And that's just Part One!

Donna's back! But will she remember the Doctor?

"Sometimes we take it for granted on this show, but John is literally one of the most in-demand actors in the UK," he adds. "He can pick and choose, and we're so lucky that he loves this stuff, and loves working with David. There's so much more he can do with the Master, as he demonstrates this time in every single scene. When he and David get together on screen – and there's much more of the two of them together, this time – it's like an acting masterclass, at which we can only stand and stare. Did I tell you how lucky I am? Well it's true!"

Since saying his heartbreaking goodbye to Donna in *Journey's End*, the Doctor has felt it wise to travel alone. Now that he's back on twenty-first-century Earth, though, and around some old friends, he's beginning to question the wisdom of that. Which is where Wilfred Mott (Bernard Cribbins) comes in...

"It's lovely to see Wilf return," Russell says with a smile. "With him comes all that love and comfort and warmth. Bernard plays the comedy so beautifully – this time, he introduces the mystery of the Silver Cloak, not to mention the appearance of June Whitfield! So many of these scenes make me laugh out loud – it's a great tonic, on Christmas Day. But Bernard's got far more to offer than that, and he opens Wilf up, in this final appearance, to show all his wisdom and sadness.

"David and Bernard carry huge dialogue scenes together, in both episodes, both playing wise old men nearing the end of their time – never mind the monsters and explosions, these two will have you enthralled. They're the most beautiful performances I could ever have hoped for in my whole life."

And, of course, where Wilf is, Donna Noble (Catherine Tate) isn't far behind.

"Christmas for Donna!" says Russell. "That's always time for trouble! And this is now, incredibly, the fourth Christmas we've seen her go through, each one more eventful than the last. But her story was never quite finished, I thought – I actually told Catherine about this final adventure at our Series Four wrap party, way back in early 2008, and made her promise to come back!

You'll remember (how could you forget!) that, at the end of *Journey's End*, Donna had all memories of her time with the Doctor erased. If she even gets a glimpse of the Time Lord again, the pressure on her mind could kill her...

"All those strange, powerful forces are still pent-up within Donna's head, but what would happen, if those energies were provoked?" Russell says. "Donna's faced all sorts of Christmas disasters, but this time, it's more personal, and more deadly, than ever before..."

So, what have we got? The Master, the mysteries of Naismith and the Immortality Gate, Wilf and the Silver Cloak, Donna, 'sadness', 'monsters' and 'explosions'... That barely scratches the surface of Part One – the cliffhanger ending of which will make the wait for Part Two feel like the longest week of your life. And the glue holding it all together?

David Tennant. Your favourite Doctor. One of the country's finest actors. Possibly the most famous man on TV, the public face and a major driving force behind *Doctor Who*'s triumphal dominance of the last few years. How do you say goodbye to that? And how did Russell approach the job of penning Tennant's final trip in the TARDIS?

"For me, it was a chance to tick those boxes again, and deliver some final moments for the Great Man," he says. "As ever, it's the stuff that we've never done before that fascinates me, and attracts David as an actor. We've done the anger on Mars, but now there's subtler stuff to be explored here. And he'll make you hoot, too – his encounter with June Whitfield is hilarious, and one of my favourite scenes ever!

"And I promise you, David will make your heart ache. I swear, when the four knocks are heard... but I can't say any more!" DWM

Will it be a happy Christmas for Shaun Temple (Karl Collins) and Sylvia Noble (Jacqueline King)?

Quote, unquote

WILF: But you said... you were told, he will knock four times. And then you die. That's him, isn't it, the Master? The noise in his head? The Master is going to kill you.

THE DOCTOR: Yeah.

In a nutshell...

The Doctor's song is ending – but first he must face his nemesis one last time. The Master has returned. Unhinged, only half-alive, the psychotic Time Lord puts a terrifying plan into action, and the universe will never be the same again...

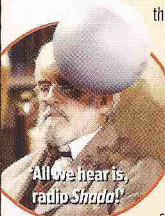
GALLIFREY GUARDIAN

All the latest news from every corner of the *Doctor Who* universe...

Book news

BBC Books has confirmed that the first three hardback novels to feature the Eleventh Doctor and Amy Pond are scheduled for publication in April 2009. The titles of the books are: *Apollo 23* by Justin Richards, *Night of the Humans* by David LLewellyn and *The Forgotten Army* by Brian Minchin. The books are expected to retail at £5.99 each.

Shada radio documentary



'All we hear is, radio *Shada*!'

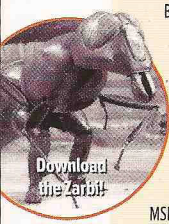
A new documentary looking at the abandoned TV story *Shada* has been recorded. *Shada* was written by the author of *The Hitchhikers' Guide to the Galaxy*, Douglas Adams, and was intended to end *Doctor Who*'s seventeenth series in 1980. However, due to industrial action, the adventure was never completed.

The 30-minute documentary is part of a series called *Shelved* and is presented by Shaun Ley. It's scheduled for broadcast on Radio 4 on Saturday 12 December at 10.30am.

Limited edition medals

The Royal Mint has launched a limited-edition range of officially licensed *Doctor Who* medals. 500 gold medals featuring the Tenth Doctor are available, priced £150 each. A silver version is available for £35, with a limited-edition of 5,000. In addition, 500 gold medals featuring a Dalek will be issued, priced at £150. The silver version, with a limited edition of 5,000, is priced at £35. Both medals, together with a K9 medal, are also available in Brilliant Uncirculated quality, priced at £9.99. For further information or to purchase a medal, visit *www.royalmint.com* or call the Royal Mint Customer Services Team on 0845 6088222.

Stories online



Download the Zarbi!

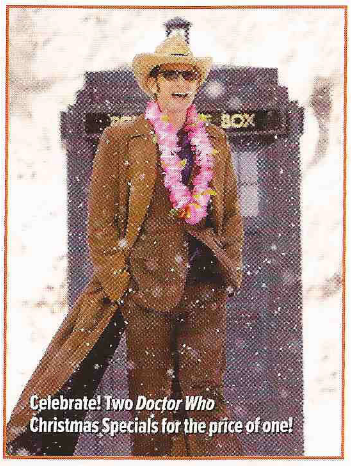
BBC Worldwide has made a selection of vintage *Doctor Who* episodes available to watch for free online on three different websites: YouTube at *www.youtube.com/user/BBCWorldwide*, MSN Video at *http://player.uk.msn.com/sci-fi/doctor-who/* and Blinkbox at *www.blinkbox.com/TV/Series/343/Doctor-Who-The-Classic-Series*. The available stories vary between sites and, due to copyright, may not be viewable online in some countries.

The biggest Doctor Who Christmas ever!

As with the last four years, *Doctor Who* is once again set to be the centrepiece of BBC One's Christmas schedules – but in 2009, with *two* festive editions. The two-part story is now officially titled as *The End of Time*, Part One and *The End of Time*, Part Two ("We're using commas, not colons!" says executive producer Russell T Davies), breaking the usual convention established in 2005 of having different titles for two-part stories.

"The titles were wrangled over for a long time," Russell T Davies tells **DWM**, "so apologies if there was any misleading information in the run-up to Christmas. We kept changing our minds – as is our right! And I'd divert your eyes to this month's *Production Notes* (a great page, and soon to go downhill) if you want to know the original title for Part One."

Russell continues: "As this issue of **DWM** goes to print in mid-November, we literally cannot confirm the transmission dates. That sometimes makes us sound a bit coy and daft, as though we're keeping a secret that everyone knows. But honestly, seriously, genuinely, transmission times and dates can change at the last minute, as the schedules for every single channel slot into place. I can remember, in 2006, *The Runaway Bride* was scheduled for Boxing Day, with *Pirates of the Caribbean* planned for Christmas Night, right up until 24 hours before the billings went to print, when the two programmes swapped places. It was a last minute change – and that can still happen! So most of us have been hinting in press and TV interviews that this year's slots will cover Christmas Day and New Year's Day, and for **DWM**'s sake, let's just assume that to be true for now. Just don't blame **DWM** if it has changed by the time you read this! Other sources will have told you the confirmed dates by now, so good luck to us."



Celebrate! Two *Doctor Who* Christmas Specials for the price of one!

The End of Time cast

The full cast list for *The End of Time* can now be confirmed. Joining **David Tennant**, in his final appearance as the Doctor, are returning actors **John Simm** as the Master, **Bernard Cribbins** as Wilfred Mott, **Catherine Tate** as Donna Noble, **Jacqueline King** as Sylvia Noble and **Alexandra Moen** as Lucy Saxon. The story also stars **June Whitfield** as Minnie Hooper, **Karl Collins** as Shaun Temple and **David Harewood** and **Tracy Ifeachor**

... and keep your eyes open for these extra Christmas gifts!

There will be plenty to keep your eyes open for before *The End of Time* itself. [*All sounds rather ominous when put like that – Ed*] *Time Out* is due to publish ten *Doctor Who* covers for its 10-16 December issue, while *The Observer Magazine* is to feature a David Tennant cover and interview on 20 December. Russell T Davies tells **DWM**, "We're hoping to make this the biggest *Doctor Who* Christmas ever! Of course, we hope to occupy many a Breakfast settee and chatshow sofa over the holiday period, but that sort of stuff is often too last-minute to make the pages of **DWM**. So keep an eye on the listings! But so far, we can confirm quite a few special treats..."

Who On Who? Radio 2, 29 Dec, 5pm.

This is an hour-long Special with Russell T Davies interviewed by David Tennant.

"The last time David interviewed anyone for Radio 2, it was Kylie Minogue," says Russell. "So I'm glad to know I'm in that category! We both loved doing this – it's a proper, in-depth discussion about the past few years, with lots of stuff that hasn't been covered elsewhere, all linked by songs from or connected to *Doctor Who*! I'd like to thank its producer, Malcolm Prince, and Jo Malley and his faithful team, for all the support they've given us ever since 2005. They've done so much to spread the word! When you hear Elaine Paige playing *Song of Freedom* from *Journey's End* on a Sunday afternoon, that's Malcolm at work! So it was great to collaborate on this to produce something which I hope has a truly unique insight into *Doctor Who*'s production and personnel."

Jonathan Ross Radio 2, date TBC.

David Tennant and Catherine Tate will be guesting on Jonathan's radio chat show.

Alan Carr: Chatty Man Chan 4, 31 Dec.

Both David Tennant and Catherine Tate have recorded appearances for this New Year's Eve Special.

Never Mind the Buzzcocks BBC Two, 16 Dec.

This will be a special *Doctor Who*-themed edition, chaired by David Tennant, with team members comprising *End of Time* stars Catherine Tate and Bernard Cribbins, as well as Radio 1 DJ Jo Whiley and singer Jamie Cullum, plus regular team captains Noel Fielding and Phill Jupitus.

"God knows what was said and done during this, because I was banned from the studio!" says Russell T Davies. "Though Bernard did say afterwards, 'They'll be a long time, editing that down!' But providing it survives the edit, we can promise an appearance by the Ood, a Cyberman, and the TARDIS too. Though we can't guarantee how much of this is suitable for younger viewers!"

Ruth Jones's Christmas Cracker

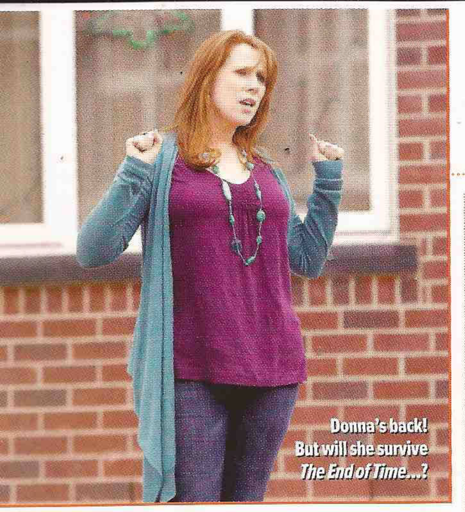
BBC Wales only, date TBC.

Russell T Davies says, "This was filmed in the *Doctor Who* Exhibition in Cardiff Bay – with me being interviewed, not by Ruth, but by the legend that is Nessa herself! Possibly the pinnacle of my TV career."

Desert Island Discs Radio 4, 27 Dec.

David Tennant's guest spot on *Desert Island Discs* was recorded in November, so listen out for lots of Scottish tracks and *Doctor Who* chat.

Meanwhile, David is pencilled in to appear on *GMTV* on Christmas Eve, and *BBC Breakfast* on New Year's Eve. Also look out for David's *Hamlet* and Catherine's Tate's Special, *Nan's Christmas Carol*. It's a *Doctor Who* feast!



Donna's back! But will she survive *The End of Time...?*

as Joshua and Abigail Naismith, with their butler, Mr Danes, played by **Simon Thomas**. **Sinead Keenan** and **Lawry Lewin** are Addams and Rossiter, with **Pete Lee Wilson** and **Dwane Scantlebury** as Tommo and Ginger. **Barry Howard** and **Allister Bain** team up as Oliver and Winston, with **Teresa Banham** as the Governor and **Sylvia Seymour** as Miss Trefusis. **Lacey Bond** plays the doomed Serving Woman and **Max Benjamin** plays the Teenager. Old favourites return, with **Lachele Carl** as Trinity Wells, **Paul Kasey** as Ood Sigma and **Ruari Mears** as the Elder Ood and **Silas Carson** as the Voice of Ood Sigma. Watching over all of this are **Claire Bloom** as The Woman, and **Brian Cox** as the Voice of the Elder Ood, with **Timothy Dalton** as the Narrator.

There will also be two hour-long episodes of BBC Three's *Doctor Who Confidential*, one after each Special, although exact transmission times are yet to be confirmed. At the time of going to press, website commentaries are planned but still not confirmed, but commentaries have already been completed for the DVD release of *The End of Time*, with David Tennant, Catherine Tate and Euros Lyn covering Part One, and David, Euros and John Simm on duty for Part Two.

» Special Project 3!

"At last, the true nature of Special Project 3 can be revealed," says "Russell T Davies, "it's the BBC One idents for the whole Christmas season! This is a truly prestigious gift from BBC One, and we're really honoured to be given this. It's been planned for a whole 12 months. Last year saw Wallace and Gromit take centre stage, and now it's the Doctor's turn.

"The idents star David Tennant, who recorded his material during his final block on the *Doctor Who* Specials, going to London for one day's filming on 21 May. The TARDIS also makes an appearance, along with some beautiful and festive FX shots. I can guarantee there's precious little chance of missing this over the Christmas fortnight. And for the truly devoted, when you see what happens in the ident, then the question of 'is it canon?' will be stretched in whole new directions! David recorded some ADR voicework for the idents, on Tuesday 17 November, which could technically be said to be his last work as the Doctor for BBC One, if anyone's keeping track!"

There are several different idents, a 30-second version, which will also be released on the Specials DVD box set, and four shorter variations. The idents are due to début on BBC One in the lead-up to Christmas, after this issue is published.

» BAFTA Bernard!

On 29 November, BAFTA gave its Special Award at the Children's BAFTA Ceremony to Bernard Cribbins. The award was presented by Catherine Tate. Bernard said, "It is truly an honour to receive this award from the British Academy. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with and for children throughout my career and am privileged to have been involved with some amazing projects."

Executive producer Julie Gardner tells **DWM**, "I'm standing up with the whole nation to applaud this magnificent and wonderful decision. Working with Bernard has been the greatest honour and delight. To think, he first appeared with us at Christmas 2007, in *Voyage of the Damned*, but none of us knew then what a journey we were starting. But this is just a small part of the most amazing career, across TV, film, radio and theatre. This fine actor simply captures the hearts of all who work with him, and all of those who are lucky enough to experience his honesty, craftsmanship and imagination. Congratulations, Bernard, from all of us on *Doctor Who*, from those generations past, and so many generations to come."

» Writer's Tale – Final Chapter

A fully revised and updated papreback version of *The Writer's Tale*, the acclaimed book by Russell T Davies and Benjamin Cook charting the process by which *Doctor Who* scripts are created and realised on screen, will be on sale from 14 January from BBC Books priced £16.99. This new edition, subtitled *The Final Chaper*, includes over 300 pages of new material, taking the story of the series' production right up to *The End of Time*.

» DWA latest

Readers of *Doctor Who Adventures*, the weekly mag for younger fans can look forward to a feast of Christmas treats in forthcoming issues, including a Master mask, a calendar and lots of other goodies in issue 146 (out 17 December for two weeks priced £2.99); a Tenth Doctor dress-up set in bumper-sized issue 147 (out 30 December, priced £2.75) and a special regeneration cover in issue 148 (out 7 January priced £2.10).

CARDIFF: MORE THAN JUST A PIT STOP!

EXPLORE THE WORLDS OF TORCHWOOD
IN THE OFFICIAL TORCHWOOD MAGAZINE

TEST YOUR WITS IN OUR TORCHWOOD QUIZ & WIN EVERY EPISODE ON DVD!
TORCHWOOD
THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE
FAMILY IANTO
MEET JOHNNY & RHIANNON!
FAIR COP
PROBING PC ANDY!
BANG BANG!
BLOWING UP CARDIFF BAY!
BEING BILIS
IT'S MURRAY MELVIN!
EVE MYLES
SHOOTING STAR
"EVEN MY KNICKERS HAVE PERFECT CREASES IN!"

Torchwood logo (c) BBC 2006. Not final cover.

INTERVIEWS!
FICTION!
COMIC STRIP!
WEEVILS!

AVAILABLE IN ALL GOOD NEWSAGENTS
WWW.TITANMAGAZINES.COM/TORCHWOOD

GALLIFREY GUARDIAN

EXCLUSIVE!

Jamie and Zoe – reunited on audio!

Audio company Big Finish has announced the return of another companion to its line-up of *Doctor Who* stories for 2010. Joining Colin Baker and Frazer Hines in June is Wendy Padbury, reprising the role of 1960s assistant Zoe Heriot.

'The Sixth Doctor and Jamie Trilogy' begins in April with *City of Spires*, in which the two travellers are reunited on the moors in Scotland, where all is not as it should be... This début *Doctor Who* script by Simon Bovey guest stars Georgia Moffett (Jenny in *The Doctor's Daughter*) as Alice.

Next up is *The Wreck of the Titan* by Barnaby Edwards, which finds the Doctor and Jamie investigating a mystery at sea. The stellar cast includes Alexander Siddig (*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*) and Miranda Raison (*Daleks in Manhattan* and *Spooks*).

The trilogy concludes with *Legend of the Cybermen* by Mike Maddox, in which the travellers are joined by Zoe. Nicholas Briggs is on double duty of directing and playing the Cybermen, while the cast includes Ian Gelder (*Torchwood: Children of Earth*).

"It was a personal thrill to have Wendy playing Zoe for the first time in a full-cast adventure," says Briggs. "Jamie and Zoe were *my* companions from childhood, and I had a tingle down my spine when we came to record the scene in which they were reunited. It was like stepping back in time 40 years."

EXCLUSIVE!

New TV Movie DVD!

DVD company 2entertain has confirmed further details of a special box set, first announced in **DWM** 414, which will appear sometime in 2010. The set is called *Revisitations* and will contain Special Editions of stories that were originally issued near the beginning of the DVD range's life back in the early 2000s.

One such story will be the 1996 TV Movie, *Doctor Who*, starring Paul McGann as the Eighth Doctor. New material featured on this disc will include a documentary from producer Ed Stradling, whose DVD extras have regularly topped annual **DWM** polls. Ed tells **DWM**, "The documentary is called *The Seven Year Hitch* and covers not so much the production of the movie, but [producer] Philip Segal's seven-year quest to get it off the ground. Many of the obstacles he encountered are discussed, including the abandoned *Dark Dimension* Special."

The programme also includes interviews with Philip Segal, [writer] Matthew Jacobs and [former BBC1 controller] Alan Yentob, among others.

In the Shops

Your guide to the upcoming *Doctor Who* DVDs, CDs, books and magazines...

December

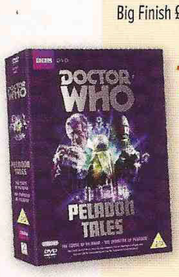
THURSDAY 10

Audio Drama CDs *Hornets' Nest: A Sting in the Tale* and *Hornets' Nest: Hive of Horror* by Paul Magrs [Fourth Doctor and Mike Yates] BBC Audio £9.78 each

ALSO THIS MONTH

Audio Drama CD *The Lost Stories: Mission to Magnus* by Philip Martin [Sixth Doctor and Peri] Big Finish £14.99

Audio Drama CD *Plague of the Daleks* by Mark Morris [Fifth Doctor and Nyssa] Big Finish £14.99



January

MONDAY 4

DVD *Peladon* box set [Third Doctor, Jo, Sarah Jane] [Contains *The Curse of Peladon* and *The Monster of Peladon*] 2entertain £29.99

THURSDAY 7

DWM 417 Panini £4.99

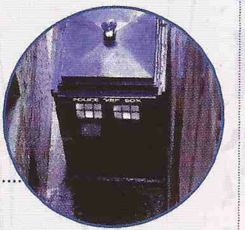
MONDAY 11

DVD *The Complete Specials Box Set* [Tenth Doctor, Jackson Lake, Christina, Adelaide, Wilf, Donna] [Contains *The Next Doctor*, *Planet of the Dead*, *The Waters of Mars*, and *The End of Time*, Parts One and Two] 2entertain £39.99, **Blu-Ray** *The Complete Specials Box Set* 2entertain £49.99

All release dates are subject to change, and all prices are RRP.

Beyond the TARDIS

Dominic May tells us what *Doctor Who*'s movers and shakers have been up to away from the series...



STAR OF DAVID

David Tennant has been signed to star as Rex Alexander, a Chicago litigator who, following panic attacks, coaches clients to represent themselves, in NBC drama pilot *Rex is Not Your Lawyer*. On top of Christmas-related *Doctor Who* appearances, David rules the season with BBC Two's *Hamlet* on Christmas Day, *St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold* in which he plays the villain, Lord Pomfrey, opening on 18 December, and BBC One's *QI* Special. David was up for Greatest Scot in an STV November poll having been voted *allaboutyou.com's* Britain's Sexiest man with 70% of the 1,000 voters. He has contributed to Oxfam's online *The Climate Challenge Game* (*www.theclimatechallenge.org*). David is the CBeebies *Bedroom Stories* reader over Christmas with five stories including *The Christmas Bear* on Christmas Eve. Meanwhile, **Catherine Tate** has her own Special, *Nan's Christmas Carol*. Doctor's Daughter **Georgia Moffett** played Vivian in BBC One's *Merlin* on 28 November.

Catherine Tate in *Nan's Christmas Carol*.

BEHIND WHO!

Yes it's panto time again... **John Barrowman** stars in *Robin Hood* at Cardiff New Theatre from 12 December to 24 January (Tickets via 029 2087 8889). **Colin Baker** is Fleshcreep in *Jack and the Beanstalk* at Malvern's Festival Theatre from 17 December to 10 January (01684 892277). **Gareth David-Lloyd** plays Prince Charming in *Cinderella* at Preston's Guild Hall from 8 December to 3 January (01772 258858). **Frazer Hines** is Wishee Washee in *Aladdin* at Newcastle-Upon-Tyne's Journal Tyne Theatre from 11 December to 9 January (0844 493 9999). Another *Aladdin* has **Brian Blessed** as Abanazer at the New Wimbledon Theatre from 4 December to 10 January (020 8938 6000). Dalek operator **Nicholas Pegg**'s *Sleeping Beauty* is at the Queens Hornchurch from 3 December to 16 January (01708 443333).

THEATRE TREATS

Also treading the boards are **Peter Davison** as Professor Callahan opposite **Sheridan Smith**'s Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde The Musical* at London's Savoy Theatre (020 8544 7424), **Jessica Hynes** in *The Priory* (Jerwood Theatre Downstairs to 9 January – 020 7565 5000) and **Simon Callow** in Charles Dickens double bill *Dr Marigold* and *Mr Chops* (Riverside Studios from 12 December to 31 January - 020 8237 1111).

RADIOPHONIC REVISITED

Former *Doctor Who* incidental music composers **Peter Howell**, **Paddy Kingsland** and **Mark Ayres** contributed to Radio 2's *Corridor of Sound* on 31 October celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Maida Vale studios the previous day, which had been the home of the BBC Radiophonic Workshop.

QUICKIES

Congratulations to **Eve Myles** on the birth of baby girl Matilda Myles Freegard. **Frazer Hines** is publishing an updated edition of his 1996 autobiography, retitled *Hines Sight*. **Michelle Ryan** is Saz in ITV1's comedy drama *Mr Eleven* with **Adam Garcia** and **Lynda Bellingham** on 11 and 18 December. BBC Four broadcast the **James Hawes**-directed *Enid* (16 November). **Cush Jumbo** was Zara Finchley in BBC One's *Casualty* (7 November).

OBITUARY

Christopher D'Oyly-John, Assistant Floor Manager on *The Ark*, Production Assistant on two Second Doctor and six Third Doctor tales and Production Unit Manager throughout Season 14, died on 21 October. Actor/stuntman **Alan Chuntz**, a member of the stunt team HAVOC during the early 1970s, and who spanned 15 *Doctor Who* stories commencing with *The Invasion* ending with *The Visitation* (including a speaking role as the chauffeur in *The Seeds of Doom)*, died in August aged 81. DWM

AUDIO PREVIEW

Dan Berry discovers what could be the most horrifying *Doctor Who* story yet – as the Daleks plague Stockbridge...

IN A NUTSHELL...

SOMETHING IS COMING TO STOCKBRIDGE. SOMETHING WHICH TURNS village cricketers into ravening zombies – a plague such as the Earth has never seen, falling through history from a time when humanity's greatest enemy was a race known as the Daleks...

PLAGUE OF THE DALEKS is available to download for £12.99 and also on Double CD, priced £14.99 (£15.50 overseas) inc p&p. CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: Big Finish Productions, PO Box 3787, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 3TF CREDIT CARD HOTLINE: 01628 824 102 EMAIL: sales@bigfinish.com BIG FINISH

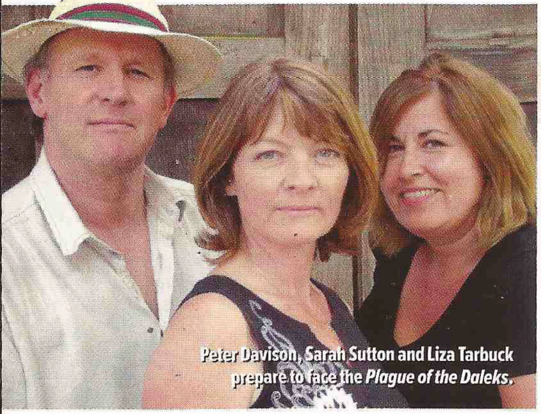
» Plague of the Daleks

WRITTEN BY Mark Morris | **STARRING** Peter Davison, Sarah Sutton, Keith Barron, Liza Tarbuck, Susan Brown, Nicholas Briggs | **AUDIO DRAMA** | Big Finish | **PRICE** £14.99 | **OUT** December 2009 | **AVAILABLE** *www.bigfinish.com*

The Daleks are back! Except, no-one seems willing to admit to their return...

"It could just involve a plague!" points out director Barnaby Edwards, nervously.

"I can't actually tell you too much," agrees adroitly-evasive writer, Mark Morris, "because this is one of those stories that reveals its secrets little by little as the narrative unfolds. All I can really say is that it continues straight on from *The Eternal Summer*, and... um, there are some Daleks in it – and even that I wanted to keep a secret!"



Peter Davison, Sarah Sutton and Liza Tarbuck prepare to face the *Plague of the Daleks*.

THE AUDIO ADVENTURES OF DOCTOR WHO
DOCTOR WHO
CLASSIC DOCTORS - BRAND NEW ADVENTURES
PETER DAVISON AND SARAH SUTTON IN
PLAGUE OF THE DALEKS
BY MARK MORRIS
FEATURING KEITH BARRON AND LIZA TARBUCK
FULL CAST AUDIO DRAMA
BIG FINISH

Finally – an admission! *Plague of the Daleks* will be Big Finish's third play this year to feature the eponymous villains.

"That's one for each of the monthly Doctors," explains executive producer and Dalek voice, Nicholas Briggs. But surely that's overdoing it? "Not in my book," he disagrees. "I think we've neglected the Daleks a bit, and I wanted each of these Doctors to encounter them in this Dalek-lite year for the TV series. They're the archetypal *Doctor Who* monsters. You can be smart and say, 'Oh, it's just them again' – but I've got no time for that point of view.

"The Daleks are the ultimate," continues Nick, "and when you want the stakes as high as possible for the Doctor, you need the Daleks. Every other *Doctor Who* monster is, in some way, a copy of the Daleks. Anything that wants to conquer and kill is really just a Dalek, in story terms. So, if you want to do that in a story, it's best to use the Daleks."

"The Daleks were a late-ish addition to the story," reveals writer Mark Morris, "and whilst I was absolutely thrilled and honoured to be entrusted with them, I did feel the weight and responsibility of nearly 50 years of Dalek history weighing heavily upon me at times. Despite what Nick says, they're tough to write for. They have a very formalised way of speaking, and certain words and sentences just sound *odd* in their... erm, well for the sake of convenience, I'll say 'mouths!'"

Having already battled the Seventh and Sixth Doctors this year, it's time for the Daleks to meet the Fifth Doctor and Nyssa, as their trilogy of adventures in Stockbridge comes to its conclusion.

"Rather than doing something wildly different or innovative with the Daleks, what I really wanted to do was to capture that almost awe-inspiring sense of threat that they have," recalls Mark. "I wanted to bring out the fact that they are psychotic and evil and merciless and cannot be reasoned with. In my story, the Daleks we meet are *in extremis*. They're like rats backed into a corner. And we all know how dangerous cornered rats can be, don't we?"

And what are these especially dangerous Daleks up to? "The Dalek involvement is very unusual in this one," Barnaby teases. "The story is set in the future, when Stockbridge has become a sort of tourist venue. But then things start to go wrong – people become infected with the plague and start turning into zombies..."

Bit of a shift in tone from the last two adventures, then?

"It was fantastic," Barnaby nods, "because the first story was a great medieval romp, the second was a very minimalistic and creepy ghost story, while this third story is a big, non-stop, all-out action adventure. Running away from zombies, things collapsing, things exploding, weather accelerating, breakdowns of environmental systems. It's great, as a director, to direct three entirely different pieces."

"It's more of an out and out horror story, I guess," suggests Mark. "There are hints of *The Birds* and *Village of the Damned* in there; there are various homages to zombie and werewolf movies. I'm a big horror movie fan and I'm primarily known for my horror fiction. And I first fell in love with *Doctor Who* because it was *scary*. Autons and Cybermen are basically dead men walking, Daleks are psychotic killers; and as a kid I was terrified of both the Yeti and the Ice Warriors, because they were big, lumbering creatures that lurched through the darkness. I mean, the Yeti to me were like a cross between werewolves and Frankenstein's monster. The stuff of nightmares!" DWM

Illustration **BRIAN WILLIAMSON**

> **"When you want the stakes as high as possible for the Doctor, you need the Daleks..."**

DVD PREVIEW

The Doctor meets monsters – *lots* of monsters! – in January's DVD box set, as David Darlington discovers...

DISCS INFO

FEATURING The Third Doctor (Jon Pertwee), Jo Grant (Katy Manning), Sarah Jane Smith (Elisabeth Sladen)
WRITTEN BY Brian Hayles

EXTRA FEATURES ON BOTH DISCS
- *The Peladon Saga*: A two-part documentary looking at the making of the Peladon stories
- Photo Gallery
- Subtitles & Production Notes
- PDF *Radio Times* listings and BBC sales literature
- Coming Soon

» The Curse of Peladon

FIRST BROADCAST
29 January 1972 – 19 February 1972
THE STORY The Doctor and Jo land on Peladon, where they become embroiled in the planet's politics – and confront an ancient curse...

EXTRA FEATURES
- Commentary with star Katy Manning, script editor Terrance Dicks, producer Barry Letts and production assistant Chris D'Oyly-John
- *Warriors of Mars*: a history of the Ice Warriors featuring interviews with the actors who played them
- *Jon and Katy*: an affectionate tribute to the story's two stars
- Visual effects storyboards

» The Monster of Peladon

FIRST BROADCAST
23 March 1974 – 27 April 1974
THE STORY Fifty years after his first visit to Peladon, the Doctor returns to find that King Peladon's daughter, Queen Thalira, has inherited a troubled kingdom from her father – and that the spirit of the sacred monster Aggedor is once more spreading terror and death...

EXTRA FEATURES
- Commentary with Terrance Dicks, Barry Letts and actors Nina Thomas, Donald Gee, Ralph Watson and Stuart Fell
- *Where Are They Now?*: Archive interview with Ysanne Churchman
- Fan Commentary on Part Four
- Deleted Scene audio
- Easter Eggs

Alpha Centauri (Stuart Fell) gives Sarah Jane Smith (Elisabeth Sladen) the glad eye.

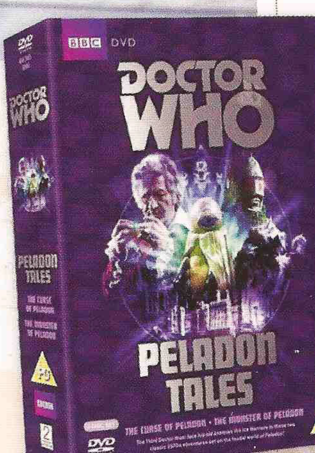
» Peladon Tales

DVD 2entertain | **CERT** PG | **PRICE** £29.99 | **OUT** 4 January 2010

It's lazy mental shorthand to think of Jon Pertwee's era of *Doctor Who* as essentially being 'the UNIT years' – to conclude that the show was entirely Earthbound for those five seasons. This, of course, simply isn't the case, and these two 'sister' stories – 1972's *The Curse of Peladon* and 1974's *The Monster of Peladon* – are perhaps the most celebrated counter-examples. Two years apart in transmission, spanning a generation gap in timeframe and constituting a significant contribution to the history of celebrated monsters the Ice Warriors, these are firm favourites of those fans who like their *Doctor Who* stories to form small stitches in a big old galactic tapestry.

"Both stories stand out as being rather typical of the Barry Letts/Terrance Dicks stewardship of the programme, actually," reckons documentary producer John Kelly, who co-ordinated much of this release. "They both have a notable political slant, and despite what [script editor] Terrance Dicks says, the storylines must surely have been influenced by contemporary events back in the early 1970s. As a viewer, I think they are both interesting serials from that perspective, although in dramatic terms *Curse* is probably the better of the two simply because of the shorter duration. And there are lots of monsters, which is always fun!"

Although the two stories share certain creative sensibilities and some key behind-the-scenes personnel, their non-consecutive nature makes this a very different two-story set from the recent *Dalek War* – wherein the stories were adjacent, but very, very different. That is reflected in the supporting material, too: "the main 'making-of', *The Peladon Saga*, just happened to work better in two parts," Kelly reveals, "with each half looking at diverse aspects of both stories. Doing it this way also enabled us to put a good length documentary on each disc – a single documentary for each serial would have resulted in a huge amount of repetition, as the stories have so much in common. If they were solo releases, I'm sure I would have done things differently, but structurally this was the way to do it this time." And Kelly has made an interesting choice of narrator, one who was already a household name at the time of transmission: disc jockey 'Diddy' David Hamilton.



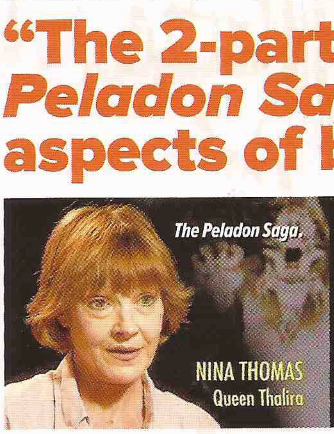
"David was recommended to me by a friend – I listened to some of his shows and thought he would add a certain enthusiasm..."

The *Jon and Katy* piece on the first disc, as the title suggests, is rather more about the leading actors than the characters they played. "I really like Jon Pertwee as the Doctor," admits Kelly, "and thought that the character of Jo worked well in the series, too. More important to me, though, was the fact that the affection that Jon and Katy had for each other clearly spilled over onto the screen, which I think was rather sweet, and added a sort of verisimilitude to the show."

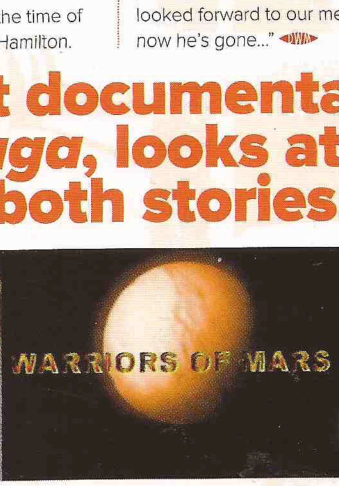
It's become all too common in looking at the DVD releases of archival stories to mourn those key contributors who have since passed on – in the case of this *Peladon* set, though, we have the unusual case where producer Barry Letts has, of course, sadly died since making his – as ever, invaluable – contribution to the DVD.

"This isn't the last work I did with Barry," Kelly says, "but it's the first such work to be released since his death. I'm happy to have had the opportunity to work with him on a fairly regular basis across the past couple of years. He was such a calm, centred man, very intelligent and articulate, and so easy to talk to. He was always practical and straightforward, and I think *Doctor Who* was a big part of his life – and he embraced that. I always looked forward to our meetings, and I'll miss them now he's gone..." DWM

"The 2-part documentary, *The Peladon Saga*, looks at diverse aspects of both stories..."



The Peladon Saga.



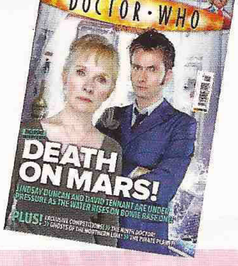
TERRANCE DICKS
Doctor Who Scriptwriter and Nov

On Target.

GALAXY FORUM

Send your letters to... Galaxy Forum,
Doctor Who Magazine, Brockbourne House,
Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 8BS.

E-mail: dwm@panini.co.uk (marked 'Galaxy Forum' in the subject line), or visit the **DWM** Facebook page at www.facebook.com



Letter of the Month...

Scariest episode ever? Perhaps. But even though I skipped going into the shower after watching *The Waters of Mars*, nothing disturbed me more than the very end. The Flood-possessed were all very spooky, but the most terrifying thing in the episode was the idea of the 'Time Lord Victorious'. Even the Master has never presumed to make a claim so massive, and it's the moment where we finally realise that the Doctor has gone wrong. I was utterly chilled by the scene and David Tennant performed it magnificently. The episode left me dying to know what happens next. Is it Christmas yet?

MARK HARRISON FACEBOOK

Not long now to wait, Mark! Your letter wins you a DVD of all the recent *Doctor Who* Specials, from *The Next Doctor* to *The End of Time*, out from 2entertain on 11 January 2010 priced £39.99.

The Time Lord, feeling far from victorious. But all that is about to change...

"The most terrifying thing of all? The 'Time Lord Victorious'..."

Hello! After months of anticipation, *The Waters of Mars* was finally broadcast in November. DWM readers were quick to give us their opinions on the story...

■ WATER WORKS?

From the cuteness and humour of Gadget ("Gadget Gadget!") to the terrifying prospect of something as innocuous as water being deadly, *The Waters of Mars* pressed all the right buttons.

David Tennant, casting the laws of Time and Space to the winds showed a dark side that we never knew the Doctor had. He needed someone to stop him. It took Adelaide sacrificing herself to keep the timelines as they should be, a chilling indication that the Doctor was out of control. His realisation, on seeing Ood Sigma, that he had gone too far sent a shiver down my spine.

KATY INGRAM LEEDS

Trying to combine portentousness and scares with family-friendly fun (Gadget) was quite jarring.

As a whole, the story felt slight, possibly because of its disaster movie feel, and once the Doctor decided to become fully involved it seemed more like an appetizer for the final two-parter, rather than a story in its own right.

Having said that, the concluding 'Time Lord Victorious' section was electrifying, and made the episode feel worthwhile; it's hard to overstate how totally shocking it was to see the Doctor acting so out of character, consumed by his own arrogance. Adelaide's suicide was similarly unprecedented, and a brave move on the part of the production team.

NEIL CLARKE FACEBOOK

The transformations of the humans by the Flood were scary, as were the resulting monsters, but it was the Doctor's own transformation that concerned me as I watched him, in swift succession, break one of his own most fundamental rules and then turn into a monster himself. It was so well-scripted and performed and made its point very well: here's a man who thinks he can do anything with impunity. If he isn't stopped, he'll become the worst villain of all. At the very end, we are led to believe the Doctor's state of mind to be – well, unbalanced, to say the least.

I do hope that, in his final two episodes, the Tenth Doctor shows more of the fortitude displayed by those of his previous selves who also had foreknowledge of their doom.

MIKE SIVIER EMAIL

Monstrous Maggie – 'unnerving'!

Bowie Base One was amazing! With its clever mixture of sets, CGI and locations it appeared vast and very realistic. It also featured some of the most genuinely unnerving monsters in the series' history, brilliantly brought to life by Neill Gorton and his team.

The story built to a shattering climax with the Watcher-like appearance of the Ood and the ringing of the cloister bell setting the stage for the Christmas Specials. Has the Doctor altered his own timeline with his intervention on Mars? And could Gallifrey be the 'it' that is returning, as mentioned at the end of *Planet of the Dead*...? I can't wait to find out.

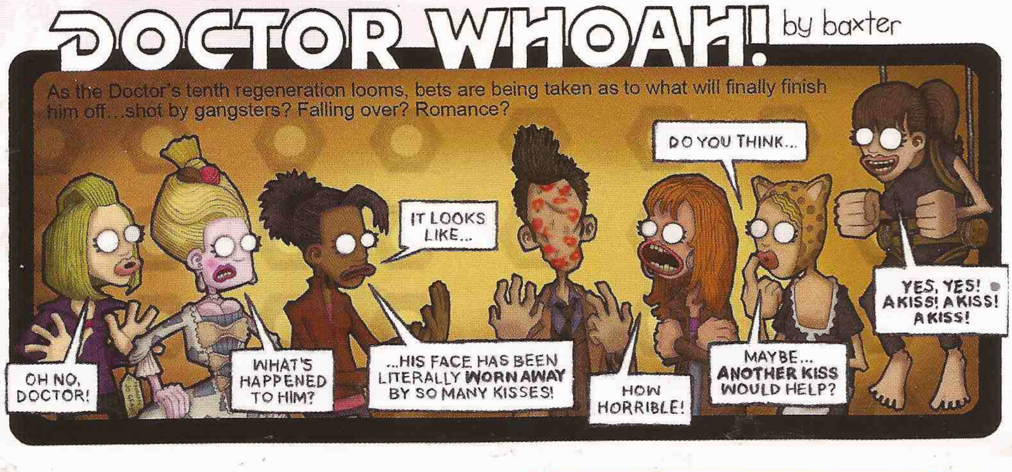
DAVID SNELSON EMAIL

The Waters of Mars was one of the most striking pieces of storytelling I have seen for a while, particularly in its heartbreaking climax. Russell T Davies' Doctor has long been Messianic, yet as the 'Time Lord Victorious' his already complex character reached a new level of iridescence, molded seamlessly into the caste of true tragic hero.

This destroyed Doctor, arrogant and uncontrollable, yet paradoxically made so by his own weakness and human fragility, is even more terrifying than the living nightmares that we left on Mars.

JANE DINWOODIE
PLYMOUTH

My favourite moment of the sublime November Special wasn't the dire prophecies, the chilling monsters or even the funny robot (and he *was* funny!), but that tender moment of Yuri recounting the story about his brother and his husband's spending habits while his co-worker spasmed in agony behind him. This is what


DOCTOR WHOAH! by baxter
As the Doctor's tenth regeneration looms, bets are being taken as to what will finally finish him off... shot by gangsters? Falling over? Romance?
OH NO, DOCTOR!
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM?
IT LOOKS LIKE...
...HIS FACE HAS BEEN LITERALLY WORN AWAY BY SO MANY KISSES!
HOW HORRIBLE!
DO YOU THINK...
MAYBE... ANOTHER KISS WOULD HELP?
YES, YES! A KISS! A KISS! A KISS!

AND YOU TEXTED US TO SAY...

HELEN: '**DWM** 414's cover asks "Can the Doctor prevent a marital disaster?" No need to watch *SJA* for the answer – he does it on a regular basis in our house!' • **ERIK POLLITT**: 'David Tennant, I have same word game on my iPhone. My high score is a measly 125, damn 3-letter words! What's your high score?' • **STEVE**: 'Re Matt Smith's bowtie. Makes him look like a serial killer!'

• **BETH**: 'Brian, you silly! You've been texting **DWM**, not me, for months. I thought you were ignoring me! Darling, "I do!" I will love u til *The End of Time*!' **Send us your messages by texting DRWHO followed by your name and your message, to 66633. Texts are charged at 25p per message, plus any network charges.* Please keep messages to 160 characters or under, and the best will appear on this page.**

*Service Provider: Eckoh (UK), Herts, HP3 9HN.

I love most about Russell's *Doctor Who*, tender and beautifully sincere moments smuggled into perversely dark scenes (and vice versa). Bring on *The End of Time*'s epic and emotionally resonating seven-minute scene with the Doctor and Wilf!

BRENDAN KENNEDY EMAIL

Eve – the ultimate redhead.

The Waters of Mars was, to coin a phrase, victorious! I really, really can't wait for Christmas now. All I have to keep me going is speculation. Having read the *Production Notes* and hints in *Gallifrey Guardian* in **DWM** 415 about the next episode, I've come to the following startling conclusions: The six-word title will be *If I Could Turn Back Time*, and the Hollywood Star will, of course, be Cher! The Doctor will try to go back and fix everything he can, but will be prevented by the arrival of a glamourous Time Lady played by Cher astride a giant gun on a spaceship shaped like a US Battleship!

Okay, so the voice in the trailer didn't sound very much like Cher, but it's amazing what you can do with a pitch shifter and a ring modulator these days. And she does have a track record with vocoders. Sorry if I have spoiled this for anyone, but I am sure I am right.

NEIL JOHNSON FACEBOOK

Not quite, Neil! For more about the next episode, *The End of Time*, Part One, see page 6. Now, a couple of weeks before the Doctor arrived on Mars, he attended the wedding of Sarah Jane Smith...

SARAH JANE SMITTEN!

The Wedding of Sarah Jane Smith – what an fantastic story! Nigel Havers was ten times better than I thought he would be and the story of his relationship with with Sarah Jane was heart-breaking, akin to *Father's Day*.

The appearance of David Tennant was effortless and just beautiful and at the end of the story, as Sarah Jane walked out of the TARDIS, it brought a tear to my eye as she gazed upon this Doctor, perhaps for the last time. I'd better stop now before I start blubbing! A truly immense episode

KATIE GRIBBLE FACEBOOK

The Sarah Jane Adventures has really found its feet this season. The first two were good, but they seem to have got it just right this time. From the tragedy of the wedding to the brilliant common-as-muck Mona Lisa, they've got the balance perfect. Well done to all involved.

DEREK GREEN FACEBOOK

How awesome is the *The Sarah Jane Adventures*? *Prisoner of the Judoon* was way funnier than it had any right to be: I guess I'd never considered the comedy potential of a bunch of armed rhinos. And the design of the copper ship was a great example of getting the most out of a very simple set. *The Mad Woman in the Attic* was superb: for once we got to see Sarah Jane and company save an alien instead of defeat it. Eve, Harry, and Sam were beautifully characterised, and even when Eve's powers were going berserk, I felt sorry for her. A great job by the writers and actors in portraying sympathy and fear, and for giving us a genuinely happy ending.

ANDREA GIESBRECHT OMAHA

Apart from *Invasion of the Bane* I hadn't seen any of *SJA* until the recent third series. After watching the first four episodes I think the show had matured and grown a lot since that first outing. The cast is well balanced and Lis Sladen is fantastic and wonderful at portraying emotion. Sarah Jane has grown as a character which is why she is so many people's favourite companion.

ALAN PERCIVAL BARNSLEY

She is indeed, Alan – as DWM 414 revealed, readers voted Sarah Jane their favourite companion of all time. There's much love for the runners-up, too...

GIRLS ON TOP

I just wanted to congratulate Catherine Tate in coming second in the *Mighty 200* favourite companion survey for her portrayal of Donna.

All through the 2008 series she proved again and again what a fantastic actress she is, even overshadowing David Tennant which I never thought was possible. Her performance in *Turn Left* was breathtaking and for that reason it will forever remain my favourite episode. She gives the character of Donna Noble so much warmth, compassion, emotion and humanity.

I hope and pray that Russell gives Donna Noble the happy ending she so rightly deserves.

VICKI CLIFFE PETERBOROUGH

I feel I must write to express by disbelief at the results of the *Mighty 200* favourite companion poll. My top three were not even mentioned! Who can forget the gorgeous Wendy Padbury (Zoe) clinging to the console in *The Mind Robber*? Or Nicola Bryant (Peri) sporting swimwear in *Planet of Fire*? Or my all time favourite, Sarah Sutton (Nyssa) when things just got too hot to handle in *Terminus*? I feel a pull out poster of said three is in order as recompense. I am going for a lie down now.

REX STINSON. BURY.

Have a cold shower first, Rex. Meanwhile, also on the subject of companions...

GOOD COMPANIONS?

After reading Jon Preddle's letter in **DWM** 415, I've come up with a solution to this 'who-is-a-companion?' business. Basically, people like Grace Holloway or the Brigadier aren't companions *or* allies – they're 'companion-allies'. A companion-ally is someone who isn't quite a companion, but to call them an ally would be an injustice. However, it also includes companions of companions *eg* Gwen Cooper or Luke Smith. Here are a few more: Sara Kingdom, Lynda with a 'y', Sergeant Benton, Rani Chandra, Mr Smith and Ianto Jones.

STACEY CAREY REP OF IRELAND

I think the question of whether a character is a companion or not should be judged in terms of a how they relate to the Doctor in terms of narrative role – specifically, do they enter into a given scenario independently of the Doctor or not?

Liz Shaw, for example, only becomes involved in events as a direct result of being the Doctor's assistant, thus she qualifies; and the Brigadier is sent to the Death Zone specifically as support for the Doctor, so he has companion status for *The Five Doctors* at least.

On the other hand, Astrid Peth is on board the *Titanic* and would have been threatened by Capricorn's scheme even if the Doctor hadn't arrived, so she doesn't count; and neither does Adelaide Brooke, who is very much a part of the web of events on Mars already.

COLIN HICKS EMAIL

It's a compelling argument, Colin. And finally, from *The Waters of Mars* to the waters of Earth...

LOOKS FISHY TO US...

"Moisturise me!"

"Glub-glub-glub glub!"

On a recent holiday to France we paid a visit to the fantastic aquarium in La Rochelle and we saw this fishy exhibit. Does it remind you of anyone – Lady Cassandra O'Brien, perhaps? Do you think they could be related?

TREVOR OGG FORFAR

ON THIS MONTH

10 YEARS AGO

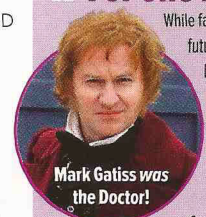
Peter Ware flicks though his DWM 286, from December 1999...

PLUS! Our guide to living
DOCTOR WHO
He's bac
to save
the world
The Third Doctor materialises on

» Millennium!

December, 1999. With the space-year 2000 just around the corner, **DWM** readers indulged in wistful speculation as to how their long-dead show could be revived on TV in the twenty-first century. "If the BBC were to make a new series of *Doctor Who* but with all the old ingredients and showed it in its appropriate shot on a Saturday teatime, believe me they would have a hit on their hands..." insisted Jane Littlehales of Doncaster on **DWM**'s letters page, *Timelines*. Peter Frankhum, via email, agreed: "I believe that whilst it's not possible to please all the people all the time, it is possible to attract a new generation of viewers to *Doctor Who* whilst maintaining the majority of existing fans." Time, of course, would prove them both right...

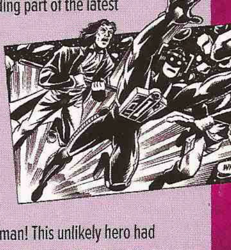
» For one night only!



Mark Gatiss *was* the Doctor!

While fans wished for a better future, *Doctor Who*'s past had been celebrated by the BBC Two in a theme night devoted to the series on 13 November. 'Hosted by Tom Baker at his bonkers best,' reported *Gallifrey Guardian*, 'the evening feautured an eclectic mix of items, from celebrity interviews and rare behind-the-scenes footage to comedy skits [starring Mark Gatiss] and mini-features... Few will have stayed the entire course, but those who did will now have several images forever etched in their mind – Tom Baker skipping in the park, Peter Davison bound and gagged... and of course, that fabulous BBC2 Dalek logo!' Ten years later, the images remain unforgettable!

» The Age of Steel!



Meanwhile, the concluding part of the latest **DWM** comic strip adventure, *The Company of Thieves*, by Scott Gray with art by Adrian Salmon, ended with a new companion joining the Eighth Doctor and Izzy – Kroton the Cyberman! This unlikely hero had first appeared way back in **Doctor Who Weekly** 5 in a back-up strip called *Throwback – The Soul of a Cyberman* and would accompany the Doctor for a short while before returning to comic strip oblivion. It's about time he was brought back, I'd say..

» Early learning!

Elsewhere in **DWM**, future TV series writer Gareth Roberts told us in the first of a series of tongue-in-cheek articles that *Everything I ever needed to know about life I learned from Doctor Who*. Beginning with the Hartnell era, Gareth revealed how *Mission to the Unknown* had taught him 'Don't get too attached to vinyl, cassettes or even CDs. Recording technology is constantly changing, and in the end you just have to go along with it. And buy everything again.' Which reminds me, I must download that mp3 of the *Genesis of the Daleks* soundtrack off iTunes... DWM

I Hear you Knockin'

He only has two more episodes to go, and then – gasp! – it's the end. **David Tennant** tells **DWM** why the moment has been prepared for...

Words and interview by **Benjamin Cook**

So, this is it. Just 1,461 days after the Tenth Doctor fell from the sky onto London's Powell Estate, to proclaim 'Hold on, wait there, I've got something to say... hold on, hold on... MERRY CHRISTMAS!' before blacking out, an expectant nation is settling down, stuffed to bursting point with turkey and trifle, to watch Part One of *The End of Time*, the fifth and final Christmas Special for **DWM** readers' all-time favourite Doctor.

What? It's only been 1,446 days (presuming you've bought this issue of **DWM** on Thursday 10 December, the day it hits the newsstands)? We're early? Sod it, let's stake out a place on the sofa, with just a box of Miniature Heroes and half a packet of biscuits to keep us going.

Looks at watch. Come on, come on!

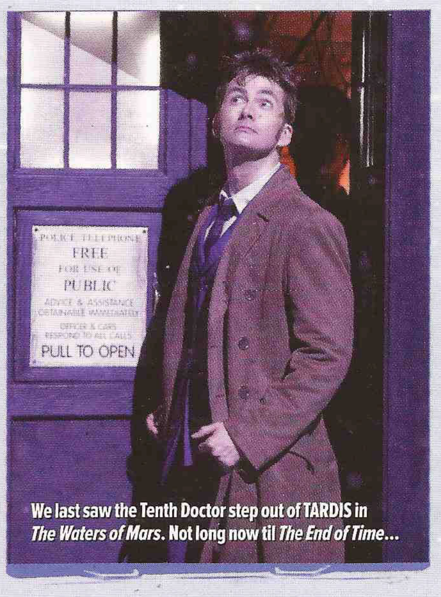
END OF TIME! END OF TIME! END OF –

Not that we're wishing away the Tenth Doctor's era. It's just... *The End of Time* promises to be the grandest, most exhilarating and emotional of send-offs. The TV event of the year! On Christmas Day! On BBC One! Part Two will air around a week later, probably on New Year's Day (exact date still to be confirmed at the time of going to press, yadda, yadda), somewhere near the end of which, after four incredible years and 47 episodes, Doctor the Tenth will breathe his last and – Allons-y! – a brand new Doctor (we're betting it'll be Number 11) will rise from the flames. Talk about causing a stir.

The man who plays the departing Doctor, David Tennant, seems remarkably relaxed, when we meet at Soho House, a private members' club in the heart of London, on 29 October. He greets **DWM** with a bear hug. He finished shooting *The End of Time* back in May, and it's good to see him again. He orders a black coffee. **DWM** requests a Red Bull (it's 9.30am, and we need something to perk us up), but Soho House is all out. "You're such a student," David grins. "You can't go drinking Red Bull in the morning. Mind you, it'd be Iron Bru in Scotland. Not so good for your teeth." Two black coffees it is, then.

We've many Top Secret Things to discuss. David's final two Specials don't air for a couple of months, and *The Waters of Mars* is just over two weeks away, at the time of our interview, so we find a table outside on the Roof Deck, away from eavesdroppers. We stay here, chatting, for almost three hours. It's David's biggest, most in-depth, most definitive interview about his exit from *Doctor Who*. Why? Because **DWM** is "important", he says. We knew that already, of course. But it's nice to hear him say it.

Five months after filming his last scene, is there, wonders **DWM**, a *Doctor Who*-shaped hole in David's heart? Or has he been too busy to notice?



We last saw the Tenth Doctor step out of TARDIS in *The Waters of Mars*. Not long now til *The End of Time*...

"Yeah, I haven't really noticed," he admits, as our coffees arrive, "and because it still feels mine, I think, at the moment. I don't feel the loss of it yet, but then it's still very much a part of my everyday life. We're still doing things like this, and ADR, and there are phone calls every day about some aspect of the fact that the shows are still to transmit. I thought there might be a *Who*-shaped hole, but there isn't. Maybe that will come when the final episodes have gone out, and I'm officially gone. When I see the show without me in it, maybe then it'll hit home."

The 2010 series will star Matt Smith as the Eleventh Doctor and Karen Gillan as his companion, Amy Pond. Won't David feel proprietorial?

"Well..."

He must have seen pap shots of the filming already. They've been published in every newspaper going. Isn't there a twinge of envy?

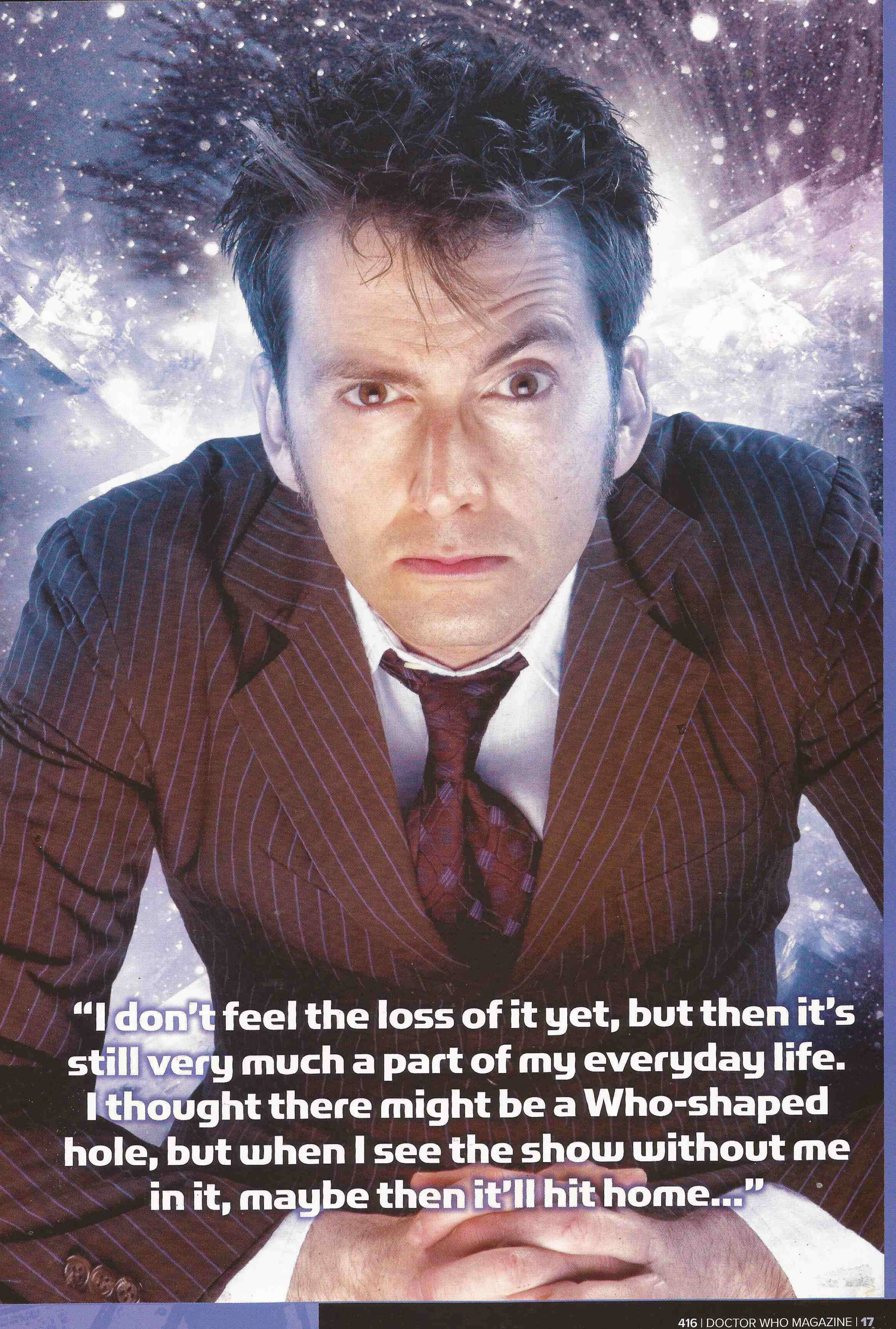
"I thought I would feel like that. To be honest, I thought I'd find it quite difficult to see them filming, and to see pictures of Matt and Karen all ready to go, but actually it's just been exciting so far. It's been a bit of a thrill. That probably doesn't sound like the truth, but it is, I promise you. It's completely genuine. I remember the day that the [Eleventh Doctor's] costume was revealed. I was really excited. Somebody texted me about it, and I went, 'Ooh!' – and headed straight online to have a look. It surprised me how un-proprietorial I felt. But maybe now is not the time to know; maybe it's next spring, when everyone's talking about how brilliant the new series is."

Will he be watching?

"I hope so. I plan to. There's certainly no reason why I wouldn't. Clearly they'll be great scripts, and I'm sure Matt and Karen will be great, so... I mean, it might be a bit odd at first, but I think I'll get used to it quite quickly."

How easy a decision was it for him to leave?

"I always kind of knew," he jumps in, but then stops. "No, I didn't know, I never really knew, but I always had an assumption that I would go probably after three years, and probably Russell [T Davies, ▸



"I don't feel the loss of it yet, but then it's still very much a part of my everyday life. I thought there might be a Who-shaped hole, but when I see the show without me in it, maybe then it'll hit home..."

POLICE PUBLIC CALL BOX

Bernard Cribbins and David Tennant spot the fan paparazzi hiding behind a bush. "Go on, get out of it!"

> **"The Time Lords were pretty fallible. It's hubris. It's Greek. It needed that scale to tell the final story. It's a tale of the gods..."**

showrunner] and Julie [Gardner, executive producer] would be going then, too."

You knew that when? From the day you started?

"Well, I signed a contract for three years, so it was always in the back of my mind that I'd do three series, and maybe a few Specials. I think once I realised that Russell and Julie were going, it seemed the obvious stepping-off point.

"But then I fluctuated," he reveals. "I wobbled a couple of times. I came closer to doing another series than I ever thought I might. I kind of always assumed that's when I'd go, and it would feel right. But then, of course, when I started speaking to Steven [Moffat, showrunner from 2010], it all seemed too tempting to miss – because it was Steven, I suppose, who I'm such a fan of. The thought of staying was more tempting than I imagined it would be."

So, what would have tipped the balance and persuaded him to stay? More money? Greater influence? What if, say, David's dad had advised him to stay on?

"Oh, my dad *did* think that," he reveals. "In some ways, he's absolutely right. It's sort of bananas, especially in the current climate, to be bailing out of a show that's at the top of its game. The last four years have been extraordinary, and possibly nothing else will ever match it, in terms of the reach – the cross-cultural, cross-generational appeal – and the popularity that the show has. It's pretty unique. So, what was hard was sticking to the decision I'd made, I suppose. Yeah. That was more difficult than I expected."

Doesn't he worry that no job will ever be this good again?

"I'm sure other things will be as fulfilling," he replies. "I hope they will, anyway. They might not be. Maybe I will bitterly regret leaving, in ten years' time, and think it's the worst decision I ever made. But right now, I'm happy to leave it, feeling proud of what we did – and happy that it never felt like a chore or a job. This show allows people to have a good time, and enjoy themselves, and feel as though they've done good work. It's been a very happy period of my life."

Time Lord David.

The Tenth Doctor's final trilogy of episodes began in November with *The Waters of Mars*. "The bit that links it," says David, "is the final act, as they say in LA, when the Doctor decides he is the Lord of Time, he's the 'Time Lord Victorious'. We're making the Doctor quite unsympathetic."

More human, even?

"Well, it's making him more Time Lord, actually, when you consider how *they* turned out."

DWM suggests that the Doctor's unswerving morals seem, usually, quite an alien quality. When we see him behaving arrogantly, selfishly or uncontrollably, it's then that he appears more fallible, and therefore more human.

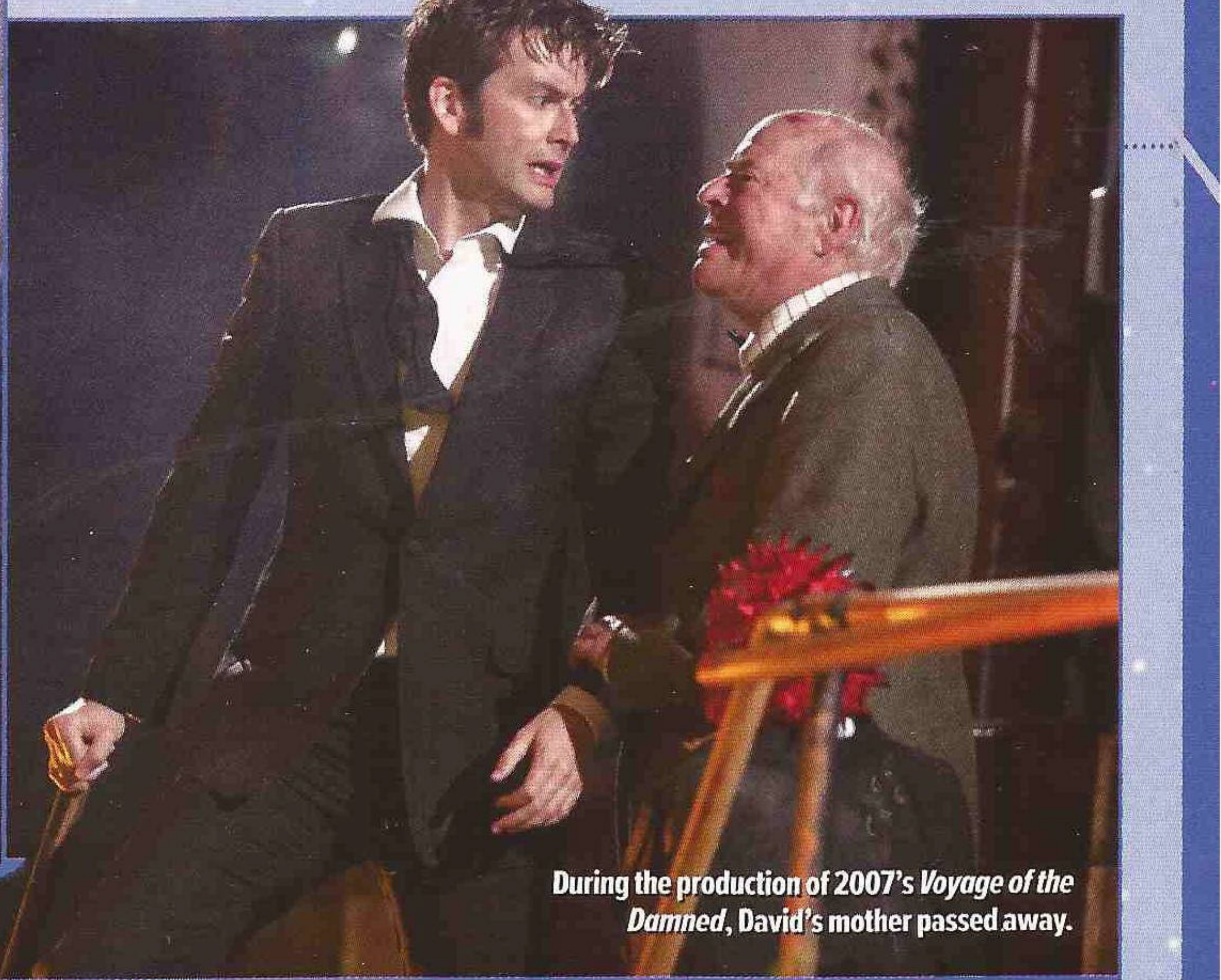
"The Time Lords were pretty fallible, too," David perseveres. "It's hubris. It's Greek. It needed that scale to tell the final story. It's a tale of the gods, really, but gods who are fallible... and, I suppose, human. I wasn't aware that was coming until I read the script for *The Waters of Mars*."

What will younger viewers make of this more fallible Doctor?

"At moments like these, you've got to delineate who the Doctor is," he answers. "To challenge children with that kind of dramatic model is great. Basically, the emotional rollercoaster of it takes all before it, really. It's interesting, and it's surprising, and it's good."

On Mars, in November 2059, the human crew of Bowie Base One – led by Captain Adelaide Brooke, played by Lindsay Duncan – faced three immediate and pressing problems: 1) the inexplicable arrival of a mysterious stranger known only as the Doctor, who may or may not be trusted; 2) a rising army of terrifying zombified monsters (the Flood), with cracked veins and white pupils, infiltrating the base and turning water into a lethal weapon; and 3) according to the Doctor, "Water always wins." It's certainly one of the show's darker, more sombre episodes, and the Water Monsters are some of *Doctor Who*'s scariest villains ever. "Of course we must be responsible," says David, "but we're careful never to overstep the mark."

A Time Lord Victorious? The Doctor goes a little too far at the end of *The Waters of Mars*.



During the production of 2007's *Voyage of the Damned*, David's mother passed away.

All film and TV sets are, by their very nature, quite hierarchical. It seems to **DWM** that David never felt entirely comfortable with that, with being treated differently just because he was the star of the show. "I don't understand some of the hierarchy," he agrees. "*Everybody* works really hard. The camera boys never stop, whereas, if you're an actor, you get to fart around between scenes and have a cup of tea. I do get why actors should have trailers, because sometimes you need a bit of space to clear your head or learn the lines, and I don't exactly kick against the luxury of it, but I think the indulgence of some actors' whims can get a bit ridiculous sometimes. I mean, I've never understood why runners are supposed to go and get actors their lunch. The runners are getting paid less than anyone, but having to work twice as hard."

DWM always finds it odd that actors on set are described as 'the talent'. What does that makes everyone else?!

"Yes! Well, I know. Exactly. We're wrapped up in cotton wool. There are greater injustices in the world, but it's a peculiarity. Once these expectations are set up, it's very difficult to deconstruct them."

David's reputation is as a team player, but also an inspiring leader, and an astute, hard-working, dedicated performer. But there must have been days when he just didn't feel like it?

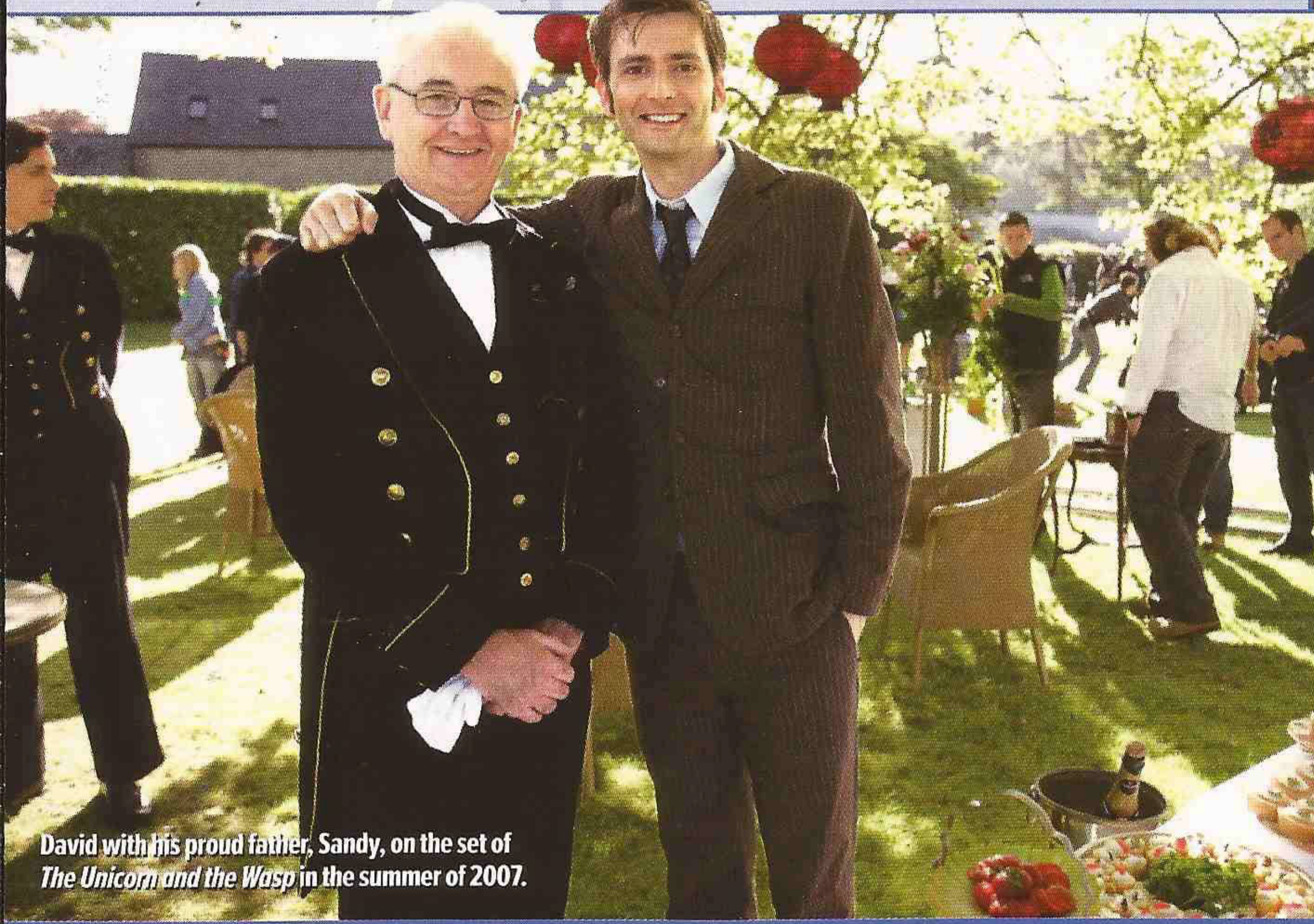
"Very few," he says. Or days when 'real life' encroached on the *Doctor Who* bubble?

"At which times there's nothing finer than immersing yourself in an exciting fictional world," he points out. "That was always very easy to do."

DWM remembers being on set for *Voyage of the Damned* in 2007, a few days after David's mother had passed away. He barely missed a day of work. That must have been hard. He seemed fine, if a little quieter, during that shoot – but was there an inner turbulence?

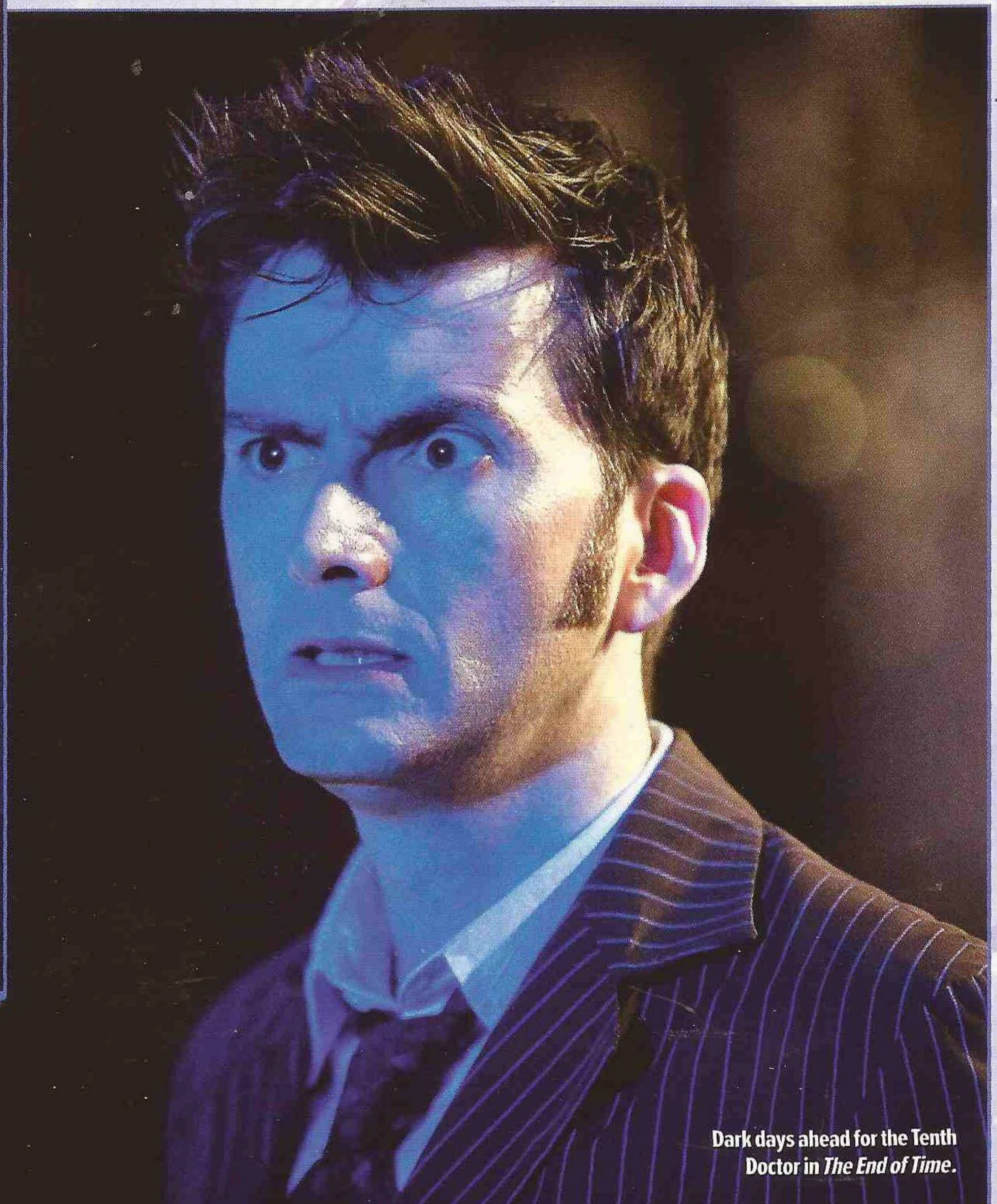
He shifts a little in his seat. "Yeah," he says. "Actually, the working day wasn't particularly difficult, because it's all-consuming and you can sort of pull yourself into it. It's the going home and learning lines on your own that was trickier, just because there's less to distract you and carry you through, I suppose."

What did his mum, Helen, make of his success in *Doctor Who*?



David with his proud father, Sandy, on the set of *The Unicorn and the Wasp* in the summer of 2007.

David cites *Tooth and Claw* as the episode where he knew exactly where he was going with the Doctor.



Dark days ahead for the Tenth Doctor in *The End of Time*.

◀ "I think she really enjoyed it." He drains his coffee cup. "Yeah. I think she loved to see it, enjoyed it enormously, and enjoyed the experience enormously."

How comfortable were his parents with having a famous son? His father, Sandy, a retired minister, seems to take everything in his stride.

"I think they both do – did. Yeah, without a doubt."

But mums tend to worry more, don't they?

"They were – and are – very supportive in all things, but they were always worried that being an actor was not a particularly clever career move. Most actors are not working most of the time. It's not the most secure profession to wish upon your offspring. I think my mum was just relieved when it looked like I could pay the bills. But she loved it, and was very supportive, and I think quite thrilled by the way things went."

At what stage in his career did David feel that he'd 'made it'? Did he ever feel like sticking up two fingers and saying 'I told you so' to those who had doubted him?

> **"*Tooth and Claw* feels like a special one, to me, because that's the first time that I thought, I know where I'm going now..."**

"Never," he insists. "Absolutely not. Because I can't imagine getting to the point where you feel like you're secure in it and you feel like everything's going to be okay now. It always feels like you're hanging on by your fingernails and the next job will be the last. Always."

David's announcement, in October 2008, that he'd be leaving *Doctor Who* before the 2010 series couldn't have been more impressively staged. "It was a little bit impressive, wasn't it?" he grins. David dropped the bombshell live on ITV, while accepting the National Television Award for Outstanding Drama Performance, in a satellite link to the Royal Albert Hall, timed to coincide with the interval of *Hamlet*, in which he was appearing that night on stage at Stratford-upon-Avon's Courtyard Theatre. Beat that! "It could have gone very, very wrong," he says. "It was always a risk. For a start, we had no way of knowing that I was going to win it until that day, so there was a lot of kind of wing and a prayer going on. I was just determined, having spent four years on a show that gets so much attention and analysis… which is a great thing, it's something to be very humbled by, but it can get a bit exasperating when you're never allowed to announce anything yourself, because it's being leaked and trailered." He offers an example: "The moment that I was announced as taking over in *Doctor Who* was sort of muddied, and fudged, and blown. I never got to kind of go, 'Hi, it's me.' It was leaked, and gossiped about, and then just kind of slithered out. We got wiser and better, I think, as a group – myself, and Julie, and Russell, and the team – at knowing how to handle that sort of stuff. I just thought, well, if this is my last big, public moment, I would love to be able to make the announcement myself. I didn't want it to be leaked and reported in some nasty paper."

So, it was David's idea?

"Yeah, I think it was, actually. Of course, it was far too early. In an ideal world, we'd have announced it months later. But you realise that as soon as Steven and Piers [Wenger, executive producer from 2010] start approaching other people, it's going to get out, because then there are agents, and agents' friends, people who don't understand how toxic these secrets are. Well, why should they? But things get picked up and spun. They're out of your control very quickly. I was determined that I would announce it myself, and the only way to do that was live television. We talked about going on Jonathan Ross' Friday-night show, but that's recorded the day before, so somebody in the audience would talk about it. There are very few live television outlets now, really. None of the big shows are live. The best we could come up with was *BBC Breakfast*. In fact, *BBC Breakfast* was our back-up plan if we hadn't pulled off the NTAs. It was very thrilling. It got very silly. It was called Operation Cobra! Oh, the e-mails that flew, and the meetings that were held in corners of the BBC. People would say something to you and you'd think, are they in? Do they have security clearance?! Am I allowed to discuss this with this person?"

However, David's acceptance speech was textbook. "This is really, really very exciting," he said, via satellite from Stratford. "Thank you to everyone who works on *Doctor Who*. It is the best bunch of people in the world." And then: "I'm very excited, because, in January, I go back to Cardiff to make four new Specials, which will see *Doctor Who* all the way through 2009. But," he said, pausing for what seemed like perpetuity, "when *Doctor Who* returns in 2010, it won't be with me." There were sharp intakes of breath from the Albert Hall audience. "We love you, David!" shouted out one woman. "I love this part," David continued, "and I love this show so much, that if I don't take a deep breath and move on now, I never will – and you'll be wheeling me out of the TARDIS in my bath chair. I think it's better I don't overstay my welcome."

And all this from outside the stage door during *the interval* of one of Shakespeare's most daunting plays. "It was peculiar," David tells **DWM**. "Just before the curtain went up in Stratford, they told me that I'd won, but that wasn't until something like 6.30 that night. The Outside Broadcast crew had come up anyway. We were going to do a pre-record as backup, but I never did in the end, because there wasn't time. If we'd done a pre-record, it would have had to have been before the show, and I just thought, we've held onto this secret, I'll be damned if we give it up now! As it was – and I still slightly regret this – the PR team decided that there had to be a press release issued, with an embargo, at seven o'clock. I'm sure our PR people know what they're doing," he adds, catching **DWM**'s expression, "but of course some arse put that up on the website, so even then it wasn't quite pure. We never quite held it back until the last moment – but pretty much. In the modern age, when information leaks out and flies around the world in a millisecond, I think we just about managed to hold it. It felt like we'd finally managed a little PR victory. I'm very proud that I at least got to announce my own departure."

Smiling, he recalls hurrying out of the stage door to deliver his big speech: "It was raining, so we had to get an umbrella up, and then two of the guys, Ricky and Rob, who were playing soldiers, went, 'Shall we stand behind you like we're your guards?' And I said, 'Yeah, why not?' – because neither of them knew what I was going to say either. It was such a state secret. But if you didn't know that I was doing *Hamlet*, Ricky and Rob standing there just looks odd. It looks like I go around everywhere with guards! Yeah, I have people dressed as Switzers at all times, following me around. But in the heat of the moment, it was like, 'Yeah, that'll be funny.'"

After ordering another couple of black coffees (still no Red Bull), I ask David – proud winner of a National Television Award for Outstanding Drama Performance, remember – what he considers to be his best performance in *Doctor Who*. And don't say, "That's for other people to judge..."

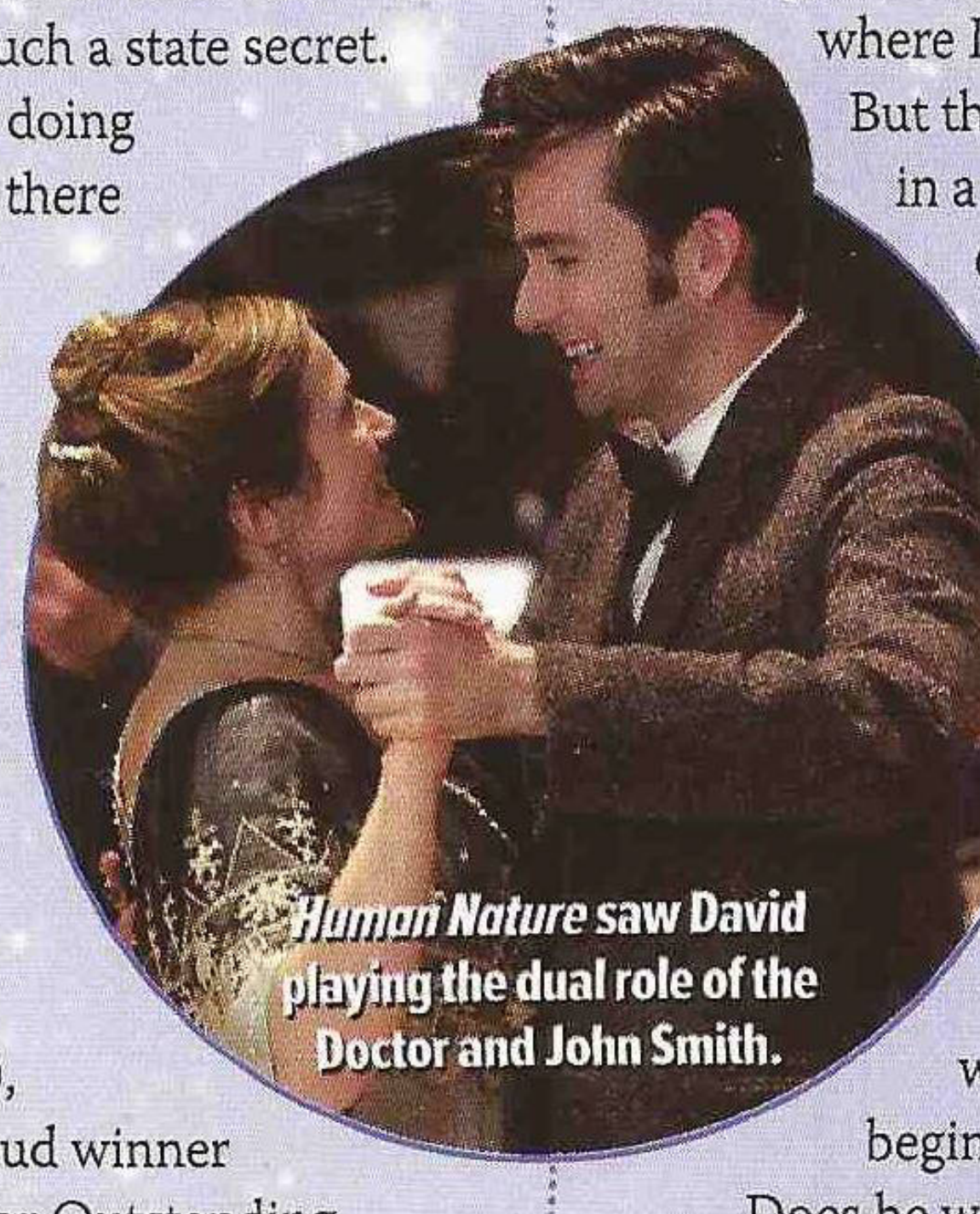
"It *is*, though, isn't it?"

Yeah. Well. Tough.

"I can't have favourites," he persists. "It'll land me in trouble! I'm worried about offending writers. Besides, I haven't seen my last episodes yet."

Do you have to see episodes back in order to judge?

He nods. "What you think you do in your head doesn't necessarily match up to the finished product, partly because it depends how it's edited, so it's impossible to comment on my last three episodes – and, in a sense, the last three afford more opportunities for showing different aspects of the character, so they might be contenders, if I manage to pull it off. Yeah, that's a very difficult question to answer. Inevitably you start looking at the slightly off-piste episodes, because they're the ones that allowed you to do something that you don't do every week. They're not the norm, so they seem more of an acting challenge – something like *Human Nature*, where I get to play two characters at once. But then, when I look back on them now… in a way, an episode like *Tooth and Claw* feels quite a special one, to me, because that's the first time that I thought, I kind of know where I'm going now. That was the fourth episode we shot – we'd done *The Christmas Invasion*, *New Earth* and *School Reunion* – but *Tooth and Claw* was the one where I finally thought I was sort of channelling it a bit. I kind of knew where I was going, and what the parameters were, and I was beginning to feel free within it, I suppose."



Human Nature saw David playing the dual role of the Doctor and John Smith.

Does he watch back those first three episodes and cringe, then? Or does he simply not watch back his old episodes?

"Oh, there's always something to cringe about, in everything you ever do. Without a doubt, there's something in every single episode that I cringe about.

Go on…? ▶

WHO'S KNOCKING?

Last Easter, in *Planet of the Dead*, the Tenth Doctor was given a prophecy: "It is returning through the dark," warned Carmen, a not-terribly-cheery sort with low-level psychic ability. "And then, Doctor... ohh, but then... he will knock four times." Shortly afterwards, David Tennant added, "If you think you've figured out what that means, you're wrong!" Blimey. So, who's knocking? Here are **DWM**'s suggestions...

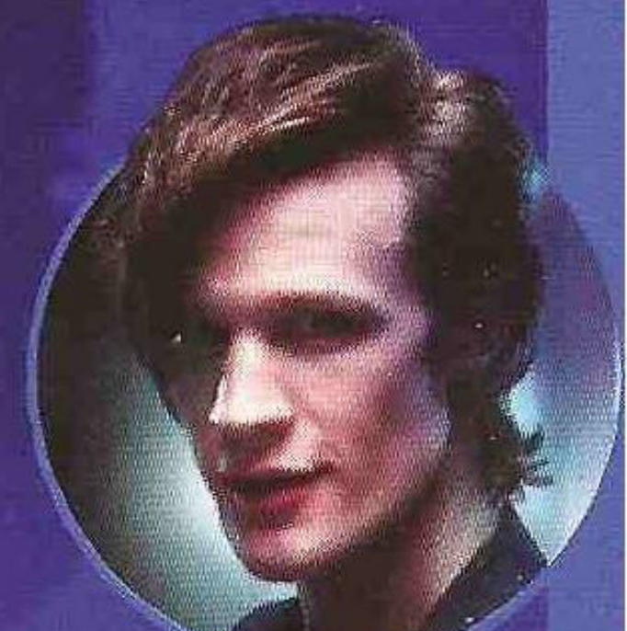
THE MASTER – 4/1

The clear favourite. Well, obviously. The Master has heard the four-beat sound of drums in his head since childhood. Four beats. Four knocks. Sorted. Except... except... is that *too* obvious?

THE OTHER TENTH DOCTOR – 12/1

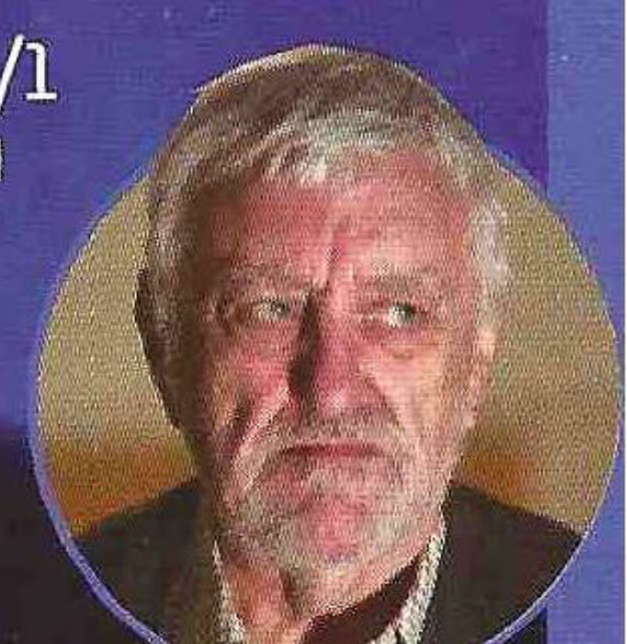
A part-human Tenth Doctor is still living with Rose Tyler in a parallel world. Could it be...?

THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR – 11/2



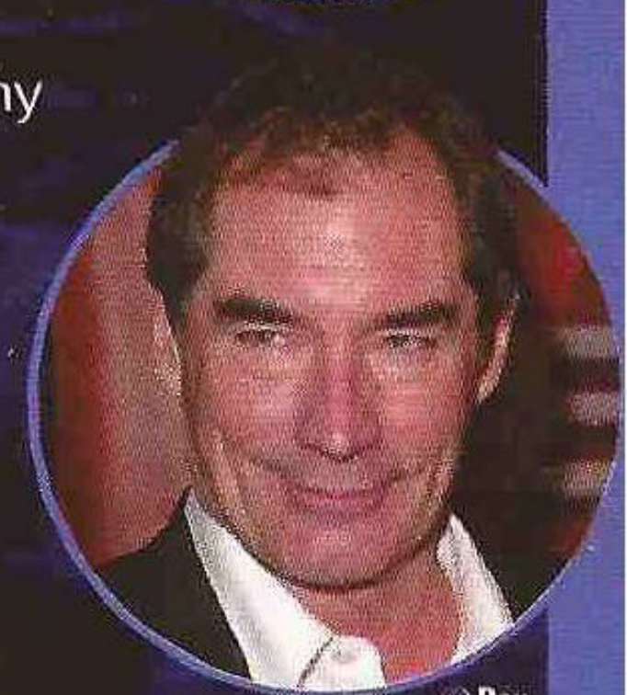
David Tennant's successor is 27-year-old Matt Smith. In his final days, the Fourth Doctor was stalked by his future Fifth incarnation, in the guise of a white, shimmering 'Watcher', so it seems there is a precedent for this sort of thing.

WILFRED MOTT – 6/1



Donna Noble's grandad, played by Bernard Cribbins, is the Tenth Doctor's companion in *The End of Time*. Knocking on the TARDIS doors, perhaps?

'THE NARRATOR' – 7/2



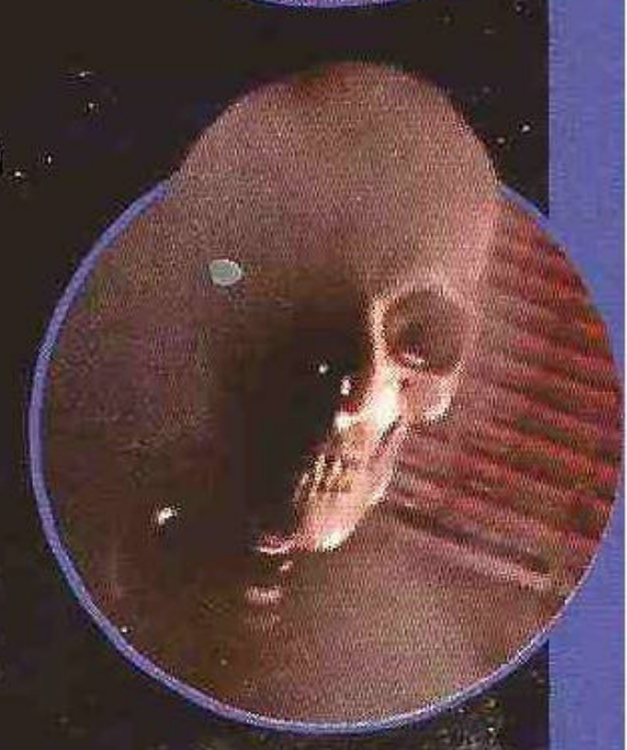
Former James Bond star Timothy Dalton is confirmed as 'the Narrator' in David's final two-parter. Could he appear in a more significant on-screen role, too?

© Rex

THE OOD – 40/1

Ood Sigma – last featured in 2008's *Planet of the Ood* – popped up at the end of *The Waters of Mars*, and returns for the Tenth Doctor's swansong... but do Ood knock? They don't seem the knocking type. Can't imagine it. Moving on.

'DEATH' HIMSELF – 13/2



The Grim Reaper was the villain in 2008 *Torchwood* episode *Dead Man Walking*. In April, David Tennant told the *Radio Times*: "The end is nigh. You can sense the Grim Reaper knocking on the door. But how many times?" There you are, then. Case closed. Possibly.

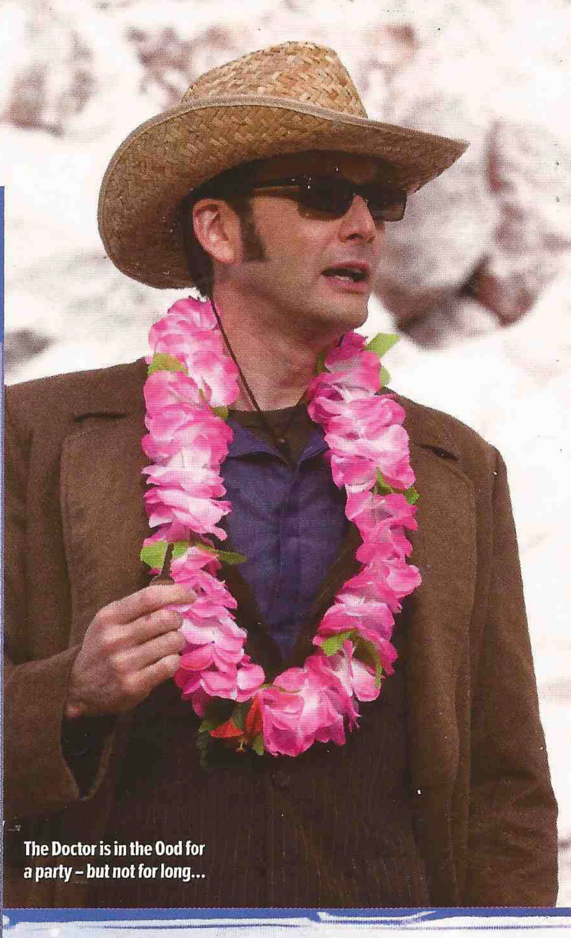
THE WEDDING OF SARAH JANE SMITH

"In a way, it's a show that has nothing to do with me," says David Tennant of *The Sarah Jane Adventures*, which he guest starred in, as the Tenth Doctor, earlier this year. "In another way, I feel slightly responsible for that show, as *Doctor Who* spawned it. Also, there's something about Lis [Sladen, who stars as Sarah Jane], about her voice, that takes me right back to when I was a kid. That's another reason I was keen to do it – that innate childhood affection I had for her. That made me want to square the circle. Is that the right expression? I'm not quite sure what square the circle means, but it feels like I was squaring the circle!" Besides, he adores the show. "It's great that *The Sarah Jane Adventures* exists, and is doing as well as it is," he says. "It challenges kids. That's good. I was just thrilled to be involved. It's sort of weird to suddenly be in scenes with Lis and K9.

"There had been a been a notion that I was going to be in *The Sarah Jane Adventures* way back. It's always been vaguely talked about. The very first episode would have had the Doctor appearing and taking away K9, because early on there was a rights issue about whether K9 would be involved or not. The TARDIS would land, and the Doctor would come out and say, 'I've got to take K9 away. See ya later!' Just to get rid of him. I mean, it never happened. Instead, they shut K9 in a cupboard. And that's fine."

Why, though, is there such a snooty attitude, in some quarters, towards kids' TV?

"Because the most you'll get is a million viewers. It's on at five in the afternoon, so it won't be recognised by an adult audience. I'm not saying that's valid, but I suppose that's why children's TV isn't regarded as highly as it should be. But it's great that we're putting that much effort into shows for children. Of course we should. I'm sure the future Steven Moffat or the future Russell T Davies is a fan of *The Sarah Jane Adventures*. Look at the people that *Doctor Who* inspired when they were children. Look what they're doing now. In inspiring kids, these shows help define who you are, I think, as you grow up – so maybe in some ways children's drama and family drama is more important than grown-up drama. I'm sure being a fan of *Doctor Who* when I was a kid helped define who I am. If that kind of moral template has been part of your DNA as you grew up, it's only going to make you a better person, isn't it? It's difficult to meet a *Doctor Who* fan who's not a nice person."



The Doctor is in the Ood for a party – but not for long...

◄

"I'm not going to *list* them!" he laughs. "I'll never hear the end of it! It's not that I look back on the first three episodes and think, oh dear, I wasn't really up to speed. But I think we got away with it. In *Tooth and Claw*, when I see that back now, *I* can see it. It's sort of in my eyes, that I've just relaxed a bit. My shoulders are down and I've... you know."

It's typical of professional writers to feel like they're 'getting away with it', like they're going to be found out any day now and exposed as frauds. Do actors feel like that, too?

"I think it's much worse for actors," says David. "If you're a writer, you have to show your homework and everyone sees it, don't they, writ large? Whereas, as an actor, I think you *know* you've got away with stuff, because an edit has helped you. I shouldn't really be admitting this, but I think all actors feel that we're getting away with it – I certainly do – by the skin of our teeth. Oh, increasingly. You're always waiting for someone to kind of go, 'He got through four years of *Doctor Who*, and now we've seen how great Matt Smith is we realise that David was rubbish and he'll never work again. Not before time. Bye-bye.' You're always waiting for that, so you never relax. The more people tell you they like what you do, the more you doubt it."

Really? Why?

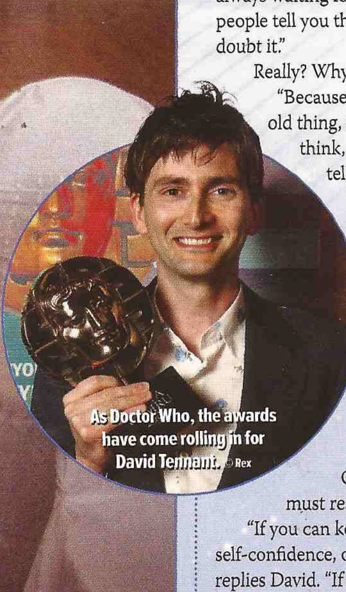
"Because you think, that *can't* be right! It's that old thing, isn't it? It's that human response. You think, well... you know. It's like if someone tells you they fancy you. You think, well, there must be something wrong with you!"

When you're doing something like *Hamlet* with the RSC, and you're getting rave review after rave review, from journalists who could make a much more interesting story out of you bombing, doesn't that tell you *something*?

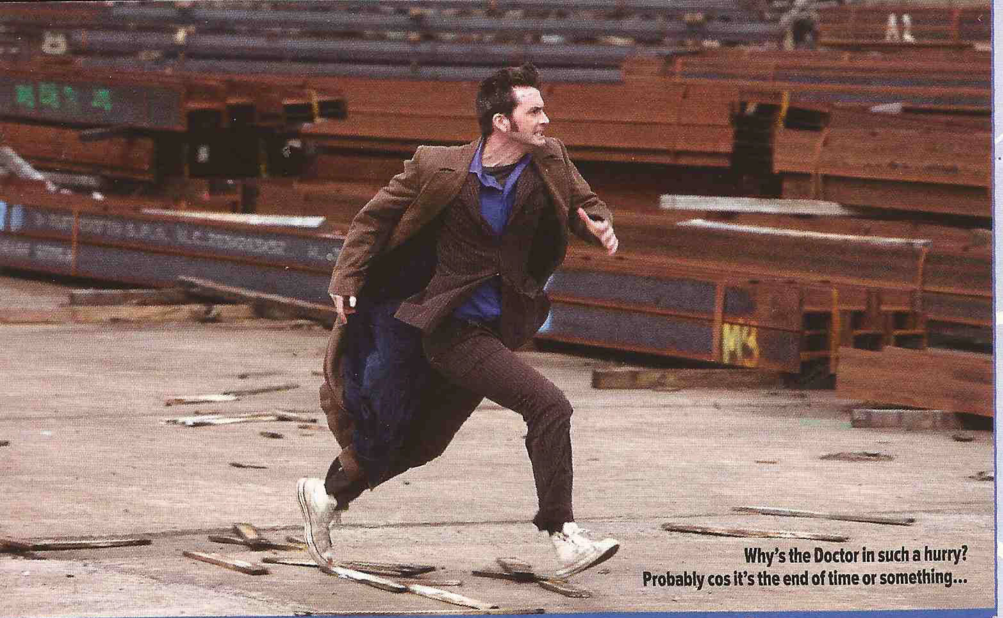
"No."

Or when you're winning awards? You must realise that you're at least not bad... no?

"If you can keep going, you begin to develop a self-confidence, of course, as you must do as a writer," replies David. "If you keep being employed, you think,



As Doctor Who, the awards have come rolling in for David Tennant. © Rex



Why's the Doctor in such a hurry? Probably cos it's the end of time or something...

well, I'm doing something right, even if it's just getting away with it. But I don't think you ever kind of..." He tries a different tack: "Maybe there comes a point when you think, that's it, I'm the best now. But it would be very boring, and time to stop. But I imagine as soon as you get to that point, you'd stop being any good anyway. I mean, you do work with people who seem to think that they're the greatest thing ever, and maybe they're right."

Ooh, like who?

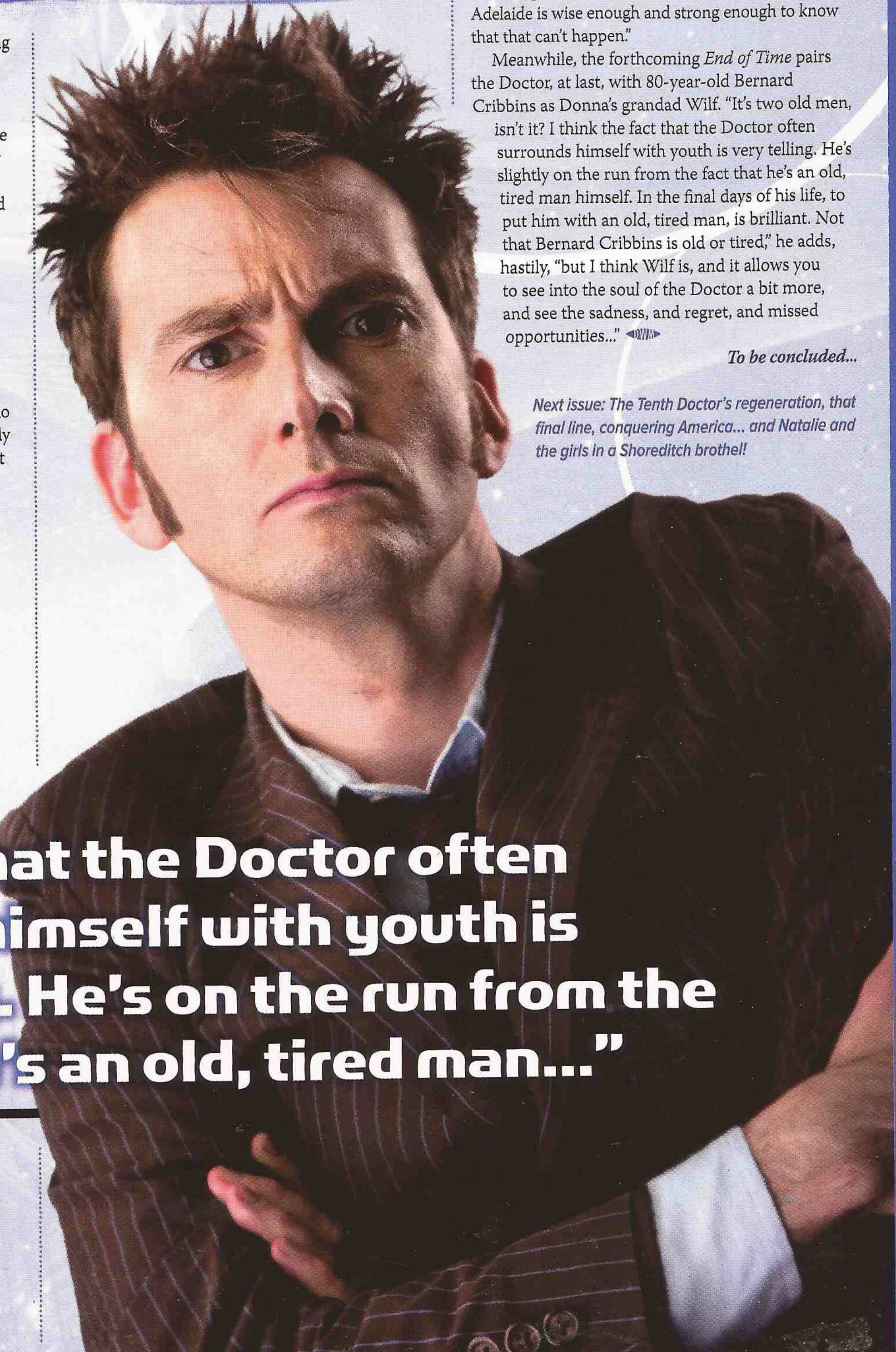
"I'm sure you know, Ben, the sort of people we're talking about." He laughs. "But anyone I know who's good, even the people who seem the most kind of arrogant, are wracked with self-doubt."

Were you extra nice to actors who came onto *Doctor Who* with a reputation for being difficult?

"Not consciously," he says, "but maybe one does do that a bit sometimes, if you feel that there's somebody to be won over. To be honest, on *Doctor Who*, I don't remember ever thinking, we've got to flatter or fluff this person into playing with the team. It was just assumed that that's what you had to do on *Doctor Who*. That was the atmosphere and the spirit of it, I think. People are rarely standoffish or grand."

david may prefer not to nominate favourites episodes, but he's less shy of picking out John Simm as one of his favourite *Doctor Who* co-stars. "I felt very honoured to have him," he says, "because he's such a class act, and because I can't imagine anyone else playing the Master. John was cast before the [*Sound of Drums*/*Last of the Time Lords*] scripts were written, and I think it shows. His Master is such an embodied creation. He's terrifying, because he's so insane in it. I'm thrilled that he's back for the finale. Also, he's a really good laugh. A great bloke to have around. I felt very, very privileged that he was there."

> **"The fact that the Doctor often surrounds himself with youth is very telling. He's on the run from the fact that he's an old, tired man..."**



And the Tenth Doctor's final three episodes have paired him with two quite different one-off companions. In *The Waters of Mars*, he teamed up with Lindsay Duncan's aforementioned space captain, Adelaide Brooke. "Older, stronger, very no-nonsense, and powerful," says David. "You're in an interesting situation, where the Doctor is a fan of hers, in the same way that he's a fan of Shakespeare and Agatha Christie. She's as big a historical figure to him as Madame de Pompadour was [in *The Girl in the Fireplace*]. As an audience, we don't know Adelaide yet, but the assumption is that if we were an audience watching in one hundred years' time, she would be a huge, Nelson Mandela-sized figure. It's a different dynamic. You need that character, and you need the strength of what that character represents, to allow the Doctor to tip over the edge in the way that he does. And you need a character like Adelaide to sort of bring him back down at the end, to not allow him to be the Time Lord Victorious. Perhaps if she were younger and more impressionable, she would let him rule time, but Adelaide is wise enough and strong enough to know that that can't happen."

Meanwhile, the forthcoming *End of Time* pairs the Doctor, at last, with 80-year-old Bernard Cribbins as Donna's grandad Wilf. "It's two old men, isn't it? I think the fact that the Doctor often surrounds himself with youth is very telling. He's slightly on the run from the fact that he's an old, tired man himself. In the final days of his life, to put him with an old, tired man, is brilliant. Not that Bernard Cribbins is old or tired," he adds, hastily, "but I think Wilf is, and it allows you to see into the soul of the Doctor a bit more, and see the sadness, and regret, and missed opportunities..." ◆

To be concluded...

Next issue: The Tenth Doctor's regeneration, that final line, conquering America... and Natalie and the girls in a Shoreditch brothel!

Back to Black

He's back from the dead – and this time, he's really, *really* mad! The Master himself, **John Simm**, chats *exclusively* to **DWM**!

Words and interview by **Benjamin Cook**

“Those awards really meant a lot to me. I was really honoured, because they're voted for by people who know what they're talking about.” So says John Simm about his two 2007 **DWM** Awards, which he won for Best Supporting Artist and Best Villain. They are, he says, the only awards he's ever won, although he's been nominated for both a BAFTA and an Olivier. “I did dip into the fan forums once,” John reveals, “and I think that some of the online community thought it was too jokey, too funny, too camp… but who gives a toss what they think? It's 200, 300 people on the internet. It's their ‘thing,’ isn't it? But because it's become so popular… it must be like if you went to see The Beatles at the Cavern in the early 60s, then suddenly, *whoompf*, everyone's into them, and you're like, ‘They're not as good as when I used to see them!’”

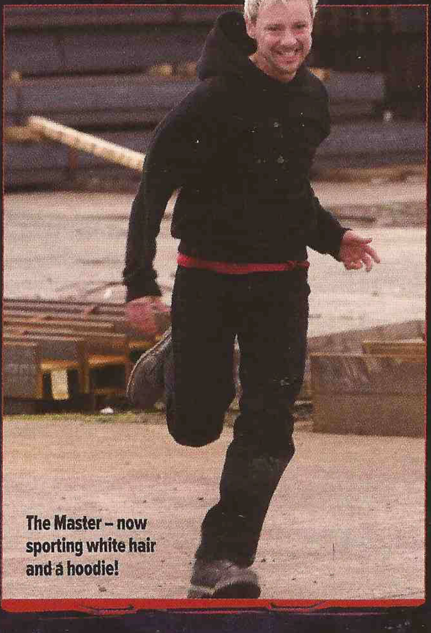
Now, John likes The Beatles. A lot. This is the first of several times John mentions them during our interview, in his trailer on the set of *The End of Time*. “I am obsessed by The Beatles. Yeah, I'm a Beatles freak, man.”

Did he know that they've appeared in *Doctor Who*?

“Have they?!” Has **DWM** out-geeked John? Er, no. “Oh, wait, it's on a telly thing, isn't it?” A Time-Space Visualiser, yeah. Close enough. It was in the 1965 Dalek serial *The Chase*. “Yeah, I remember reading something about that. See, I can tell you anything about them – The Beatles and Elvis Presley. *Anything!*”

Throughout the 1990s, John was a songwriter and guitarist himself, with Magic Alex. The band played support on two British tours with Echo & the Bunnymen, but split up in 2006 having released just one album, *Dated and Sexist*. Does he miss being a rock star?

“I do sometimes.” He hasn't always, though: “When the band split up, I didn't play for quite a while. But I listen to music all the time. I'm really excited about at least four albums at the moment.” These include Bob Dylan's *Together Through Life* (“I like it more than *Modern Times*”), Fleet Foxes self-titled début (“one of the greatest albums ever made – it's blown my mind”), Grizzly Bear's *Veckatimest* (“unbelievable”), and Department of Eagles' *In Ear Park*.



The Master – now sporting white hair and a hoodie!

Has he ever popped on some Dylan, Elvis or Grizzly Bear to psyche himself up before heading onto set?

“Sometimes I do. I'm really into classical music, which has happened gradually throughout my life, but it's come to the fore now. Especially when, like, learning lines, it's the only thing I can have on – a lot of Brian Eno or Arvo Pärt, things like that. I figured, when listening to Mozart, that's who the Master would be into! Definitely Master. It's Mozart all the way.”

But why?

“Because he's a genius.”

In *The Sound of Drums*, the Master was watching the Teletubbies on TV. Isn't that more his bag?

“That's the thing!” exclaims John, leaning forward. “It's Mozart and kids' TV programmes. I tried to say to Russell [T Davies, *Doctor Who*'s showrunner], ‘The Master should be watching *In the Night Garden*!’” This is a surreal BBC children's series first shown in 2007; it's narrated by John's predecessor as the Master, Sir Derek Jacobi. “The Master should be watching it, and do a sort of double-take at the voice! But that's a bit obvious, isn't it?” John sits back in his seat. “It would be too much.”

The slick, suave ‘Mr Saxon’ Master, whom we met two years ago, might have enjoyed CBeebies' finest, but **DWM** can't picture the hooded, dirty, feral Master of *The End of Time* doing the same. (Unless an upcoming episode of *In the Night Garden* depicts Igglepiggle the teddy bear clubbing Upsy Daisy the rag doll to death with his rattle.) Russell's script describes the resurrected Master as ‘Hair dyed punk-white. Face pale. Eyes wild. That terrible smile. Truly insane.’ John calls him the “emo Master.” Less Mozart, then, and more My Chemical Romance…?

"We had a meeting in a hotel in Cardiff. At the end of it, because that meeting was so exciting, I piped up – for some reason that I will forever regret – 'I think he should have white hair!'"

“Here’s Johnny!”

“It’s so outrageously fun to do, that you think something’s wrong and you should be doing something more serious!”

“Yeah, he’s not Harold Saxon anymore, is he? We’re not in Kansas anymore! We talked about the look, briefly. We had a meeting in a hotel in Cardiff. Russell outlined the story, and what was going to happen. At the end of it, because that meeting was so exciting, I piped up – for some reason that I will forever regret – ‘I think he should have white hair.’ And Russell went, ‘Sold!’ I thought, *great!* But about six months later, when they rang me and said, ‘We’ve made you an appointment to get your hair bleached,’ I had real second thoughts. I thought, ‘oh no, this could be really horrible.’”

John’s hair is naturally brown, so how many times did he have to bleach it?

“Just once, surprisingly. The idea was… well, I thought it would be as he was reborn, his hair got sort of ruined. I thought it would have turned his hair white.”

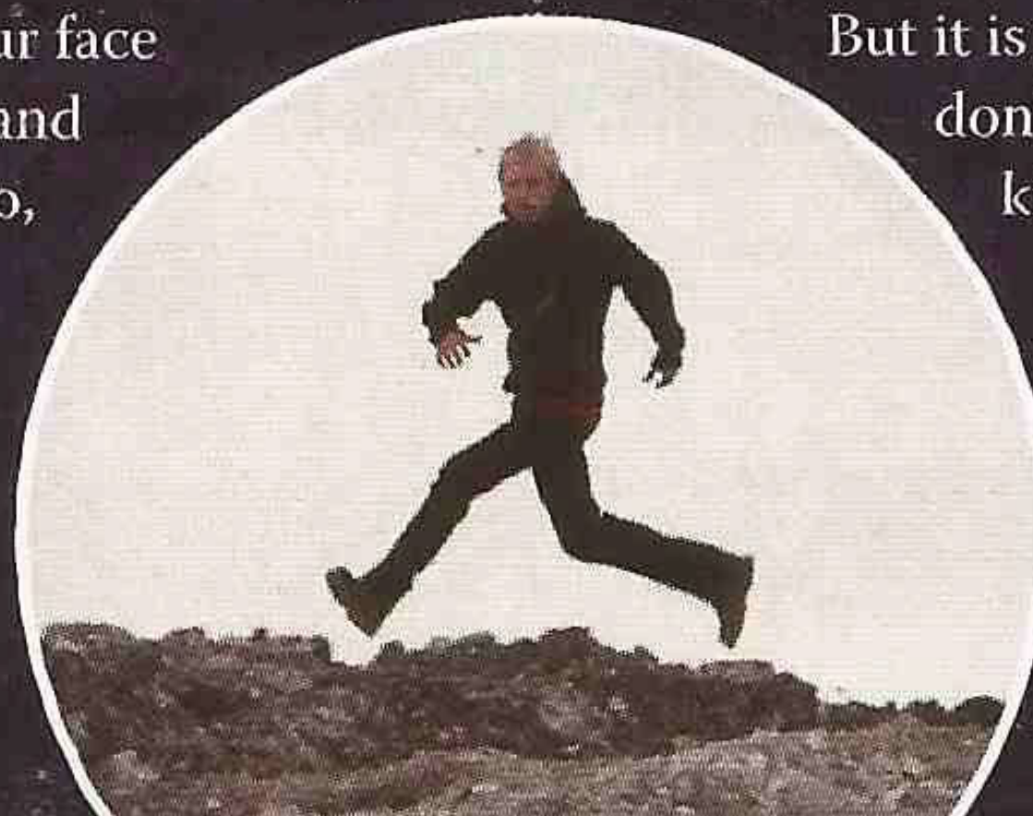
What, with the stress of it all?

“Why not?” he says, laughing. “But that’s not what happens now. What happens is, he tries to disguise himself – obviously, because he looks like the Prime Minister – and he does a really rubbish dye job on his own hair. All we need is a scene in a public toilet with a hand grabbing a bleach bottle, and some taps turning on…”

It’s crying out for a 1970s-style movie montage.

“Yeah, like with those old road movies, like Kowalski in *Vanishing Point*! And he’s nicked these clothes, but I did fight to get the colour scheme back, of black – with a little slash of red, maybe – and that’s exactly what they did.”

In *The End of Time* trail at the end of *The Waters of Mars*, we glimpsed the Master phasing in and out of skeleton mode, reminiscent of the emaciated Master of the 1976 Tom Baker serial *The Deadly Assassin*. “They keep saying, ‘Your face is going to flash into a skeleton,’ and I’m like, ‘Well, I bloomin’ hope so, because I’m going to look like a right twit if it doesn’t!’” Adult readers might like to replace some of the words in that last sentence with the fruitiest alternatives that their mucky little brains can conjure. John is an A1 swearer – but not in a family magazine. “There’s a lot of laughing in this script,” he continues. “The Master is cackling quite a lot.”



The Master is now *completely* insane!

How do you judge where to pitch it?

“Well, because I was known – before I was known for *this* – for doing quite gritty, realistic dramas… I guess this has been such a departure from that. But I knew what was coming, because I’d done *Doctor Who* before. This time, he’s even more mad. I’m thinking, oh my God, I’m going to look… well, insane!”

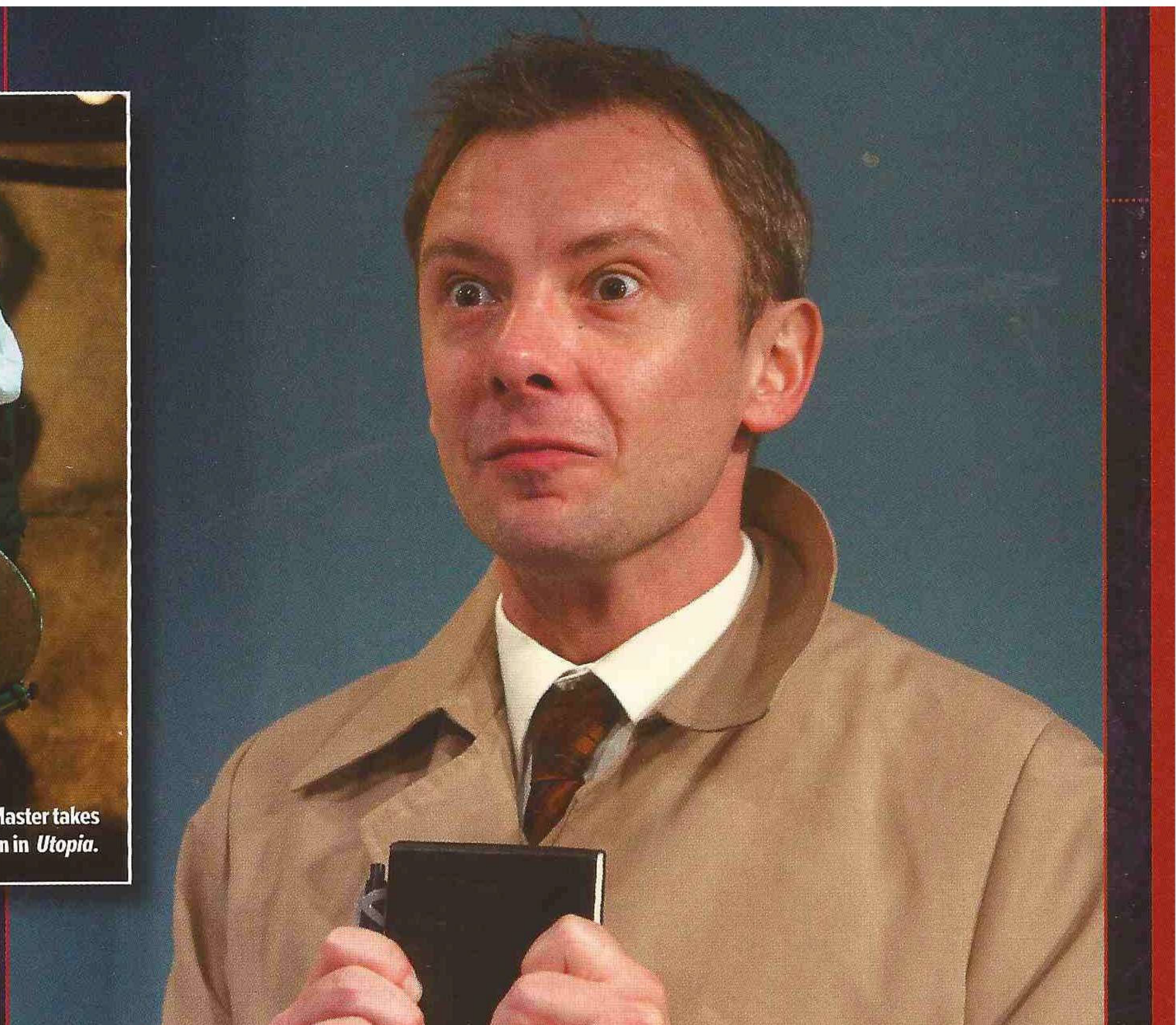
That’s the point, of course!

“It’s the *whole* point, yes. I have to trust what Russell’s written. That’s what I’ve got to play. I follow Russell’s script, to the letter. I do what he wants, especially with as famous a character as this. Whatever I think Russell wants, when I first read it, my instinct is to do that – which may need ratcheting up a little bit every so often. But it is great fun. It’s such a laugh. You don’t think you can get away with this kind of thing, and with this kind of acting. It’s so outrageously fun to do, that you think something’s wrong and you should be doing something more serious!”

Even so, these are David’s final two episodes playing the Tenth Doctor – a great enough pressure in itself, if they weren’t also being transmitted on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. Could this *be* a bigger deal? Does it weigh heavy on John’s shoulders?

“No,” he says, “I’ve always wanted to be on BBC on Christmas Day. The nearest I came was in a trail for the first series of *Life on Mars*, shown after a *Doctor Who*.” This was 2005’s *The Christmas Invasion*, David’s first full episode. Back then, sci-fi/police drama *Life on Mars* – in which John starred as DCI Sam Tyler, a police officer from 2006 who finds himself transported to 1973 – was about to prove a huge hit for the BBC, and *Doctor Who* itself had just taken its first step to becoming a familiar fixture of the Christmas Day schedules. “I remember watching that, and being really excited, and so I’m thrilled that this one’s going to be on Christmas Day, too. I’m still totally blown away that they asked me.”

The newly-regenerated Master takes the TARDIS for a spin in *Utopia*.



John appeared on the London stage in 2007 in *Elling*. © Rex

In December 2007, at the *Voyage of the Damned* press launch at London’s Science Museum, Russell T Davies was interviewed on stage. John was amongst the 400-strong specially-invited guests in the audience. Russell was asked whether he had any plans to bring back the Master, who he had recently killed off at the end of *Last of the Time Lords*. “No,” came the reply. (“I remember that!” exclaims John.) It came as a complete surprise, then, when he was invited back? “There were a few phone calls to my agent when it was mooted, to see if I’d be up for it – but there was a clash. I was about to do a play, and it was the same dates…

“I went on holiday for a week – we took the kids to a villa in Ibiza – and there were a couple of friends of ours out there. When I got the call from my agent, I was like, ‘What am I going to do? Am I going to do the play… or the Master?’ And my friends and family all just went, ‘The Master! Obviously!’ I had to pull out of the play, which people weren’t very happy about, but it was a no-brainer, really. No offence to anybody involved in the play. It’s such a fantastic character, so I was more than happy to reprise him. David rang me while I was doing *The Devil’s Whore* [Channel 4’s English Civil War drama] to say thanks for saying ‘yes.’ I was moved by that. I was really touched. They’d all got together and said, ‘Who do you want to fight? Who do we want to be in the last one?’ For them to pick me is such an honour.”

John is married to actress Kate Magowan. They have two children together: Ryan, 8, and Molly, 2. He has claimed that he took the role of the Master in the first place because of his son. “Yeah, because *Doctor Who* was the only thing I could show to my kids. Well, it wasn’t totally because of my son. There were lots of factors in there. It was Russell T Davies – I’d never worked with him before. I tick off great writers.” Others include Jimmy McGovern, Paul Abbott (several times), and Peter Flannery. “I’ve been really lucky in my career to work with some incredible writing talent. To add Russell T Davies to my collection – that was brilliant. And Julie [Gardner, executive producer] I love dearly. And David Tennant I really respect. Make no mistake about it, if it wasn’t someone like him playing the Doctor, I wouldn’t be doing it. So, there were loads of factors. It was impossible to turn down.”

What does Ryan make of his daddy playing the Doctor’s archenemy?

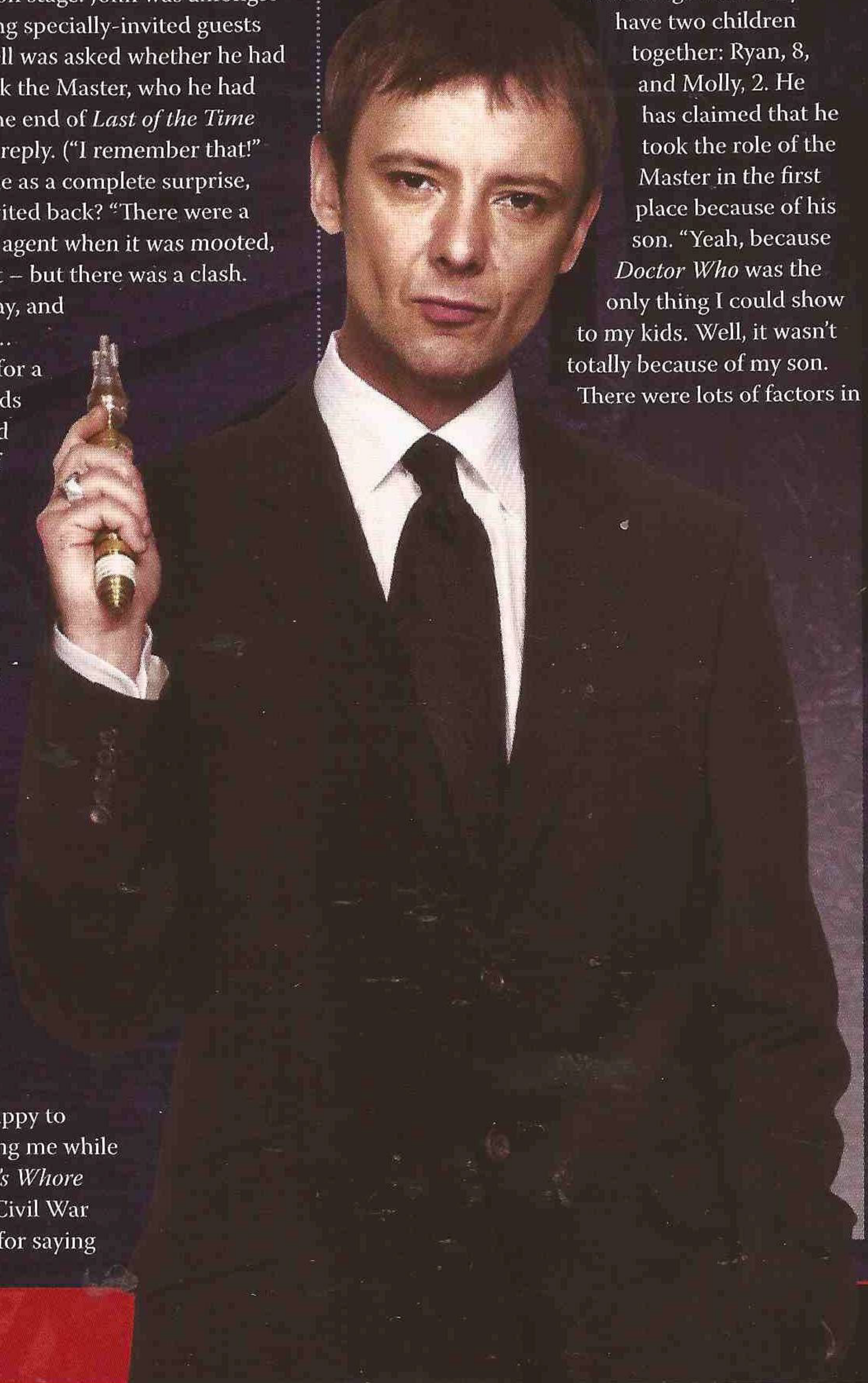
He goes through loads of different emotions,” explains John. “He was embarrassed at first. Yeah. They make such a big deal of it at school. When I took him to school the first time, a big semi-circle formed around me, and he was like, ‘Oh my God.’ And then he got teased. He had a lot of people wanting to be his friend and to come round the house. All these things that I didn’t think about, and for a lot of them I’m really sorry, but I think it will be worth it in the end, for him. He’s getting more and more used to it as he gets older.”

Is John? Is *he* used to the attention one gets from being ‘off the telly’?

“It’s something I’ve got used to over time – and it’s been a long time now. It’s not just people in the street. Obviously it was magnified after I did *Doctor Who*.” In June 2007, the month after *Last of the Time Lords* aired, John appeared in a play, *Elling*, at Trafalgar Studios in London’s West End. The audience, he says, was full of *Doctor Who* fans. “I should have realised. Absolutely mad.”

The fans? What, shaking in your presence? Requesting autographs at the stage door?

“Not only that, there were instances where they shouted out during a performance – you know, ‘He’s not dead!’ I was like, oh my *God*. That, for me, was a real eye-opener. Some of them are seriously… well, it’s scary, really. They buy out the front-row seats and… I don’t want to diss those people, because they’re fans, but…” He breaks off. “I’m shocked by it, but it doesn’t scare me. I’m a little put off by it. The attention was driving ▶



John with David Tennant at the press night of *Speaking in Tongues*. © Rex

The Master confronts his nemesis, the Doctor, in *Last of the Time Lords*.

me crazy, so I tried to get away from it all [by appearing in the play]. That backfired, didn't it?"

Can he identify with that kind of adoration at all?

He thinks hard. "No, it's a bit weird. It's too much. It's too needy. To be shaking in someone's presence is all very well if it's Nelson Mandela or Paul McCartney… but an actor from the TV? I don't get it."

Not all fans are like that, **DWM** tells him.

"Of course not," he replies. "The flipside is, sometimes people are really cool. They're like, 'I really enjoy what you do, and it's brilliant, and thank you,' and that's great. Also, the non-stop mail! I know I've got a real responsibility."

Has fame changed him?

"Um… it changes everybody in your life. Yeah. That's the hard thing. Even family sometimes, and friends. They do change a little bit."

In what way? In their attitude towards you?

"They're just different with you. In a really subtle way. The axis of the Earth shifts a little bit, and you notice it. Um… it's weird." He's struggling to answer this one. He apologises. "I don't know what I'm trying to say. It's like, my parents – in a very, very, very subtle way, they're different."

Or maybe *John* is different.

"Yeah. Maybe I'm thinking it, and imagining it. I don't see my family very often. I see them a few times a year."

The eldest of three children (he has two younger sisters), John grew up in Nelson, Lancashire, four miles from Burnley. In 1986, at the age of 16, he went to drama school in Blackpool. It was all *Guys and Dolls*, *West Side Story*, and jazz hands. Musical theatre didn't appeal to him. At 19, he headed south to attend the Drama Centre London. He graduated in 1992. Three years later, he played a troubled teenager in an episode of ITV police drama *Cracker*. It was his breakthrough role. Movies and further high-profile television work beckoned.

"It's not real," says John of his success. "It's not a real world. That's what I always think, and I'm constantly reminded of it. I get embarrassed. I've never liked attention, that's the problem. I didn't ask for it."

But would he miss it if it were gone?

"If it were suddenly taken away? I'd probably freak out," he laughs. "But it's at a manageable point now, and I don't think that's going to change, so I'm cool with it. It's taken me a while, but it doesn't bother me anymore. I've learned to deal with it. And I'm not *that* famous. I'm not *famous* famous. I'm not Doctor Who. I'm not David Tennant famous. I don't do tabloids. I'm not in the papers. They've got nothing to write about. I don't have a publicist, and I don't get photographed falling out of clubs. I've taken myself away from that, and I'm quite happy where I am."

What about when he was a rock star, though? Wasn't he pursuing fame then?

He shakes his head. "A lot of people said to me, 'What are you doing in this profession?' But it was a love of music, just as now it's a love of the actual craft of acting, the actual doing it. The other stuff was kind of, 'Whatever.'" It was playing on stage with Magic Alex that made John realise that his vocation was as an actor, not a musician.

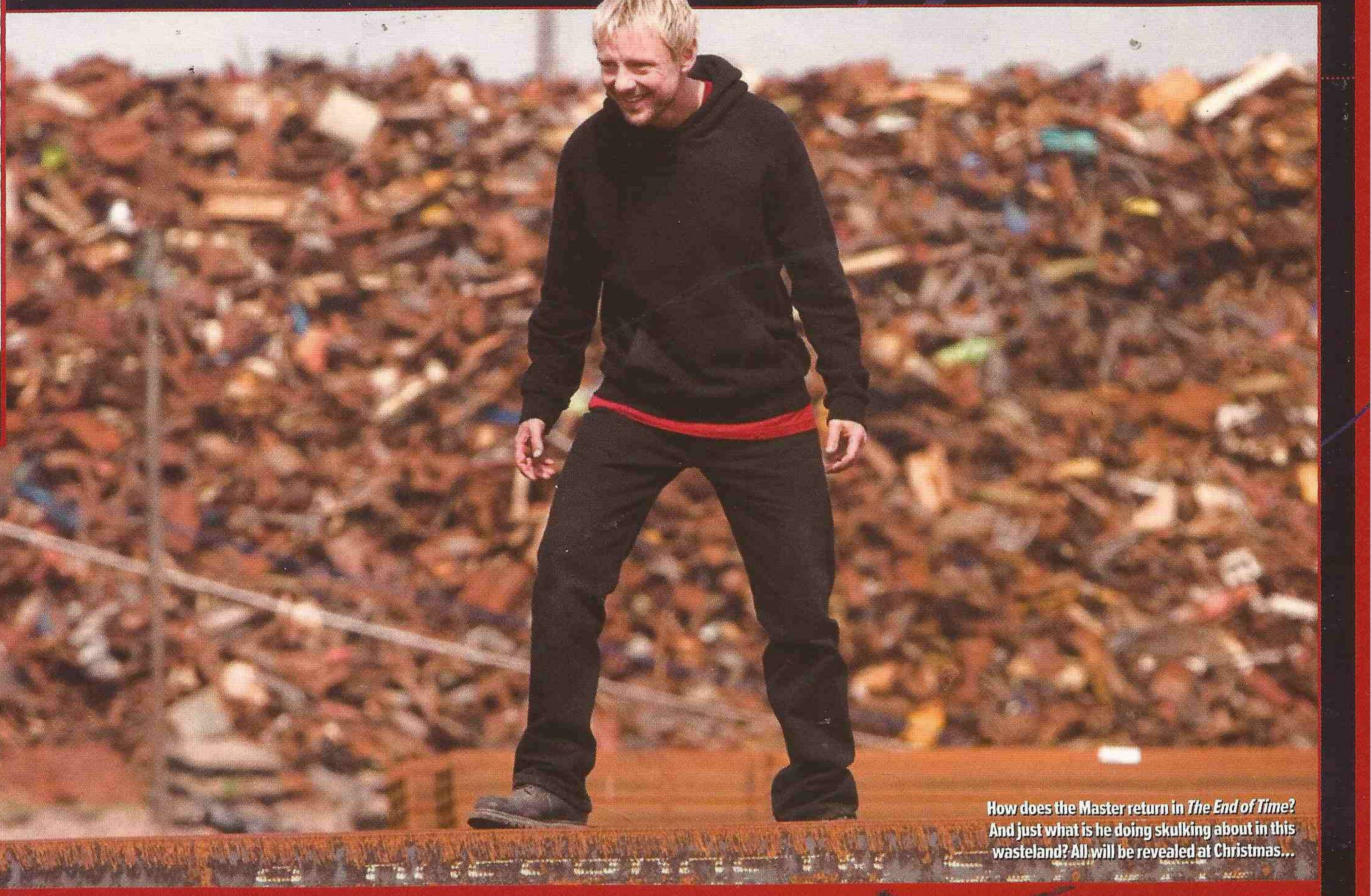
"I realised that if I wasn't being a character – or rather, if I was just being myself – I didn't know where to look. I was staring at the floor. I found it terrifying, people watching me. I thought, I can't do this, I can't be myself, I can't go through my life being stared at like that…"

Er – so he became an actor?

"It doesn't make any sense, does it? I never expected to be that successful, probably. Maybe that's what's taken me by surprise." He laughs. "I thought nobody would notice."

Having been a success in the role of the Master once – well, in the eyes of everyone bar a few hundred people on the internet – wasn't there a temptation *not* to return? To quit while he was ahead, as it were?

"Nah, because when we had the meeting about it, the first meeting, there were a few conditions – because Russell was open, as he always is, to ideas. I said, 'What I think we needed last time was more *tête-à-têtes* with the Doctor and the Master.' We didn't have enough scenes together. I had a lot of scenes with the little man in the cage [the aged Doctor], but that wasn't really him." In fact, they had so few scenes together that Russell added one to *Last of the Time Lords* at the eleventh hour, of the restored Doctor and the Master teleporting to Earth from the *Valiant*, confronting each other on a cliff edge, and then teleporting back again. "That's what people want," enthuses John. "The Master and the Doctor together. Because they're two sides of the same coin. It's heads talking to tails. I enjoy bouncing off David, so more of that tempted me back. I think we have really good chemistry. And when Russell started telling me about the Hannibal Lecter chair," he grins. "When I read it, I was like, 'Yeah, that's exactly what I was saying!'" Intriguing…



How does the Master return in *The End of Time*? And just what is he doing skulking about in this wasteland? All will be revealed at Christmas…

> **"My Doctor was Pertwee into Tom Baker, but now my Doctor is David. Nobody else can change their Doctor… but I can!"**

The Master and his missus hear *The Sound of Drums*.

John and David first met in 2003, at the première of British movie *Bright Young Things*, in which David has a supporting role. "I remember going up to him afterwards," says John. "I'd never seen him before, so I thought he was English, because his accent in it is so brilliant – and then he spoke and I went, 'Oh God, you're Scottish!' I remember going on about how fantastic his English accent is. But more importantly, above any of this, he is, I think, the greatest Doctor Who ever. Hands down. It's just brilliant to be his Master. We've had some great scenes in this. We did last time, but there's some even more memorable stuff this time.

"There's a moment where I'm firing all these things out of my hands – which is great anyway, like Iron Man – and every time I put up my hand, there's an explosion behind David, who's walking towards me. The camera was on David, so all that was behind me. I could see no crew, no cameras, nothing, just this labyrinth and Doctor Who walking towards me as I was shooting from my hands! It was like a Nintendo Wii *Doctor Who* game, but all for myself."

It's the game that kids play in the playground, isn't it? The Doctor versus the Master, shooting firebolts at him out of his hands?

"Yeah! And I am the Master!" **DWM** can't tell you how glad we are that John just said that. He he! "It was a real 'Wow, this is bloody great' moment. I loved saying to David afterwards, 'Wasn't that fun?' And he went, 'Yeah! Isn't it amazing?' There have been so many moments like that."

With David set to regenerate into 27-year-old Matt Smith, does John reckon his association with *Doctor Who* is over? Or will his Master return to face the Eleventh Doctor?

Funnily enough, John bumped into him the other day. "I did, very briefly. And yes, we did speak about it."

About returning? Ooh! Really?

"Yeah. But he was with Steven Moffat," grins John, raising his hands as if to say "so what could I do?"

Well, Steven's the one to ask, John. Pester the Moff!

"But I don't want to be a traitor. I'm David's Master, that's my era. I can't really see myself… look, it's a funny thing, because everybody's got their own Doctor, haven't they? My Doctor was Jon Pertwee into Tom Baker…. but now my Doctor is David. Nobody can change their Doctor, but *I* can." He's getting excited. "I am his Master!" Maybe even a little carried away. "Um… what was the question again?"

The Master versus Matt Smith: yay or nay?

"Well, we discussed it. I said, 'Are we going to lock horns? What do you think?' And Matt went, 'Yeah, man! Let's lock horns!' I don't know, I'm sure they'll want a new one. Maybe they'll go for an older Master – or younger, like the Doctor. I looked at Steven and went, 'I'll come back and regenerate for you if you want.' But I've no idea what they're going to do. I'd have a look at any ideas that they've got, in the future, and say yes or no… but you know what? I'm not sure I want to take the Master much further. Russell, and Julie, and David – that's my era. The end of an era now. And I think that'll be the end of my era as well."

Young at Heart

He's a legend in his own lifetime – and he plays the Doctor's trusted friend and companion Wilfred Mott. Ladies and gentlemen, the one and only **Bernard Cribbins**!

Words and interview by **Benjamin Cook**

"I didn't have to think twice. I was delighted to be asked to come and do these two Specials, especially since I was to be a companion, as it were, to actually go into the TARDIS. I haven't been in the TARDIS for – I don't know – 40-something years."

In 1966, Bernard Cribbins played London police officer Tom Campbell in the second of two 1960s Dalek films, *Daleks – Invasion Earth 2150 AD*, that starred Peter Cushing as eccentric inventor and time traveller Dr Who. "But it was very strange to actually go into this present TARDIS," says Bernard.

Bernard Cribbins rarely gives interviews. He's spoken to **DWM** only twice before, for just a few minutes a time. "You mean this is going to be longer?" He takes a deep breath. "Righto." As it turns out, he stays chatting to **DWM** for almost an hour. It's an honour. We are in the presence of a living legend. As Donna Noble's grandad Wilfred Mott – ex-Army, part-time Dalek baiter, occasional newspaper-vendor – in last year's series of *Doctor Who*, Bernard won over legions of fans. He is, literally, loved. In *The End of Time*, in which Wilf enters the TARDIS and becomes a bona fide companion, Bernard delivers one of the most dignified, affecting performances of any actor in *Doctor Who* ever.

This is a fact.

"It's a lovely job, and I've loved every minute of it," he says. "I couldn't be happier. People say to me, 'Weren't you in *Doctor Who*?' And I say, with some pride, 'Yes, I was!' I can't wait to see these episodes, when everything's clicked into place."

The chances are, *Doctor Who* will be watched and re-watched – and rediscovered, by future generations – for as long as mankind enjoys and appreciates frankly brilliant television. It will live on forever. Which can't be said of many TV shows. Except, incredibly, Bernard has featured in several such productions. He appeared in legendary 70s sitcom *Fawlty Towers* as the spoon salesman Mr Hutchinson, mistaken by Basil Fawlty for a hotel inspector. He narrated countless childhoods as the reader of 111 episodes of *Jackanory*. ("More than any other person," he points out. "It's the world record!") In the mid-1970s, he was the voice of animated children's series *The Wombles*. On the big screen, he played the station porter Albert Perks in *The Railway Children*, which has gained a place on countless lists of the greatest movies ever made, and he's entered the pantheon of *Carry On* stars, with three films under his belt (*Carry On Jack*, *Carry On Spying* and *Carry On Columbus*). The year after facing the Daleks in 2150 AD, he even associated himself with the James Bond franchise by appearing in the satirical *Casino Royale*. What a career!

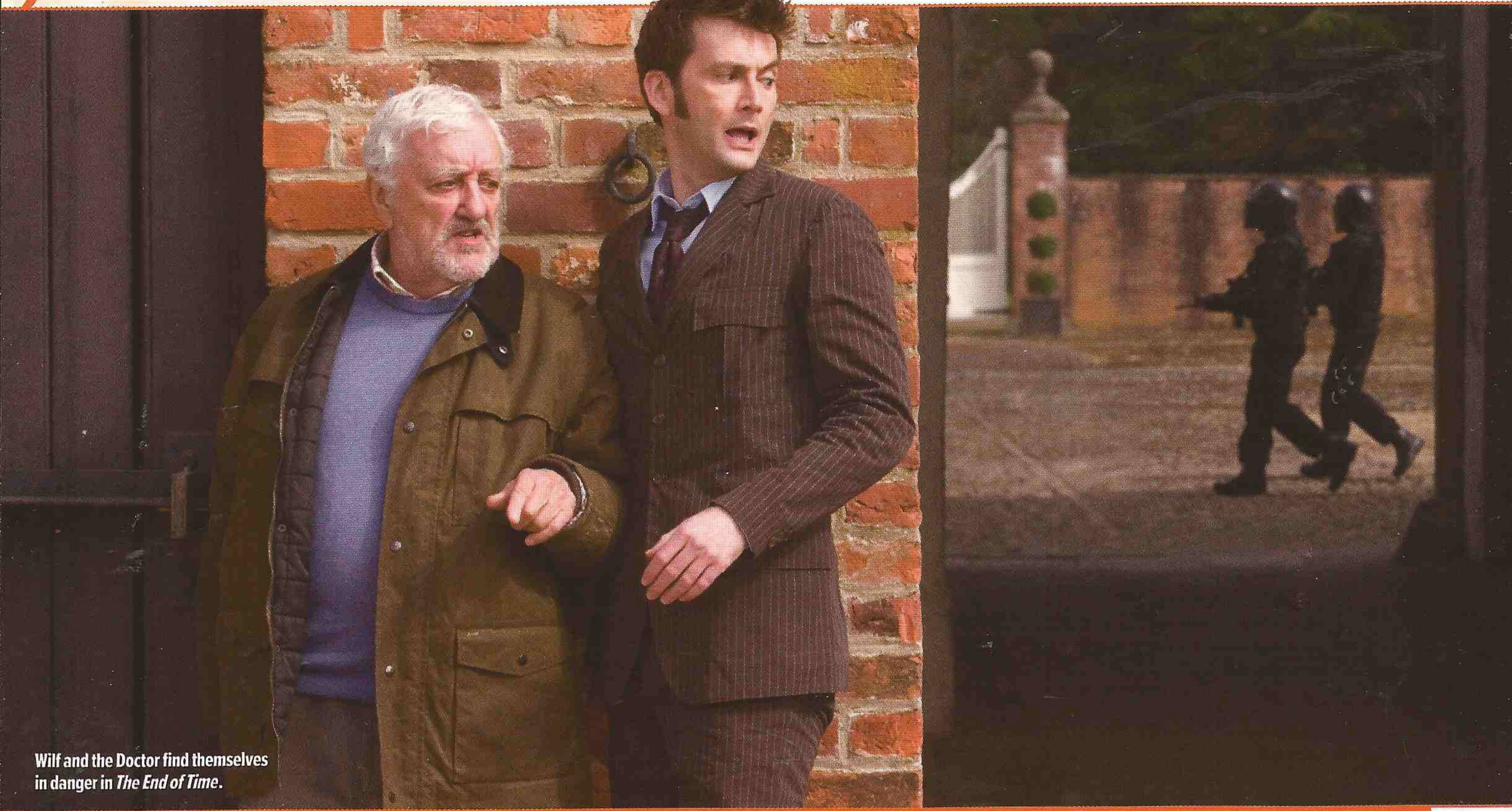
"It's wonderful," Bernard admits, when **DWM** reminds him that he'll still be entertaining millions after we're all long gone. "These things do have a hell of a long life. I can always tell people's ages by how they refer to me. If it's *The Wombles*, I know they were born in the 60s or early 70s, because they were five, six, ten or whatever in the mid-70s. I mean, David [Tennant] is – what? – 38, and he had a Womble toothbrush. He told me that the other day. He stopped suddenly, with great surprise on his face, and said, 'I had a Tomsk toothbrush!'"

Kylie Minogue, who appeared opposite Bernard in 2007 *Doctor Who* Christmas Special *Voyage of the Damned*, had no idea who he was – until someone mentioned *The Wombles*, at which point she reverted to being six again, and was unable to contain her delight. How must it feel to count Kylie amongst your fans?

"I thought she might know my records," says Bernard, "but maybe she's a bit too young." Kylie was born in 1968. Six years earlier, Bernard recorded two comedy songs, *Hole in the Ground* (in which an embittered workman murders a man in a bowler-hat) and *Right Said Fred* (a group of workmen struggle to move a cumbersome, unspecified object), both of which made the UK Top Ten. They were produced by George Martin, whose other signing that year was a little-known popular beat combo called The Beatles. "Yes, whatever happened to them?" wonders Bernard. "I was with George Martin before he got The Beatles. I was in that studio before they were. But I never got any sales from Australia, and we found out why, much later on. Some kid out there took *Hole in the Ground* and *Right Said Fred*, and covered them! He was a big hit in Australia with all my songs. I've got to find him. I'll punch his lights out."

Bernard starred as Tom Campbell in the 1966 movie *Daleks – Invasion Earth 2150 AD*, alongside Peter Cushing.

"Playing Wilfred has been lovely, because he's had so many aspects to him. To finish off actually in the TARDIS, and doing all the bits and bobs up in space, has been wonderful..."



Wilf and the Doctor find themselves in danger in *The End of Time*.

> **"It's beautifully written, so you don't really need to do a lot as an actor: just learn the lines, and say 'em pretty!"**

Does getting recognised – be it for *The Wombles*, the *Carry Ons*, or *Doctor Who* – ever get tiresome?

"If I'm in a restaurant and I'm having my soup," he says, "and somebody comes up, gives me a dig and says, 'Oy, sign this,' I usually say, 'Piss off.' No! I usually say, 'I'll do it when I've finished eating.' That's it. Don't interrupt. But generally people are polite and ask in a proper way. I don't have a persona where you would ever be awestruck. It's usually, 'Oh, it's you! I remember you! Barbara Windsor – what's she like?' That's the usual reaction."

When he recorded *Voyage of the Damned* in the summer of 2007 – playing an unnamed newspaper seller, who later turned out to be Donna's grandad – Bernard can't have imagined that Wilfred Mott would become yet another career-defining role…?

"I just thought, well, I'm this silly old fart selling newspapers," he laughs. "As you get older, you play different sorts of roles, obviously, and Wilfred has been lovely, because he's had many aspects to him. To finish off actually in the TARDIS, and doing all the bits and bobs up in space, has been wonderful – and the monsters and everything else."

And we learn more about Wilf's background in *The End of Time*. "He's a gutsy old bugger still. He still has a pop. He doesn't take too many prisoners, and he absolutely adores the Doctor. He loves him deeply, and you see that, I think, in some of the scenes – because of the writing. Russell's writing is so good that it makes you feel extremely close to the character."

In Part Two, there is a scene between Bernard and David – in fact, several such scenes, but **DWM** is thinking of one in particular – that is, without doubt, a contender for *Doctor Who*'s Most Beautiful Scene Ever. ("I like you," smiles Bernard, when **DWM** tells him this. "You can come to my next interview!") What with this being published pre-transmission, we won't reveal much more, except to say – so that you know, when you see it – that it comes just under halfway through the episode, and includes the words 'blizzard,' 'rooftop' and 'skinny,' and the line 'Don't you deserve it?' Bernard says: "At the time, it felt good. It felt very good. It's beautifully written, so you don't really need to do an awful lot as an actor; just learn the lines and say 'em pretty. The writing is incredible." This is true, of course. But Bernard is being modest. It takes a special kind of actor to deliver a performance *that* good. Isn't he being disingenuous to suggest otherwise?

"That is my very flash way of saying that the writing is everything – which it is, let's face it. Without

HOLE IN THE GROUND

Listen up. This is a Very Important Question. It has been bothering the human race for almost half a century…

"No, I am not," replies Bernard Cribbins. "Sorry, what's the question?"

Look, what exactly *is* the mysterious, cumbersome object featured in Bernard's 1962 chart hit *Right Said Fred*?

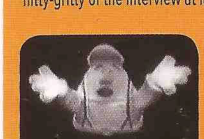
"Ahh, I'm glad we've got down to the nitty-gritty of the interview at last!"

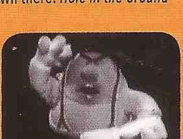
But it has handles, and candleholders, and feet, and a seat, and the workmen have to remove a door, a wall, and a ceiling in their attempts to shift it…!

"All right, calm down," he smiles. "Don't get agitated."

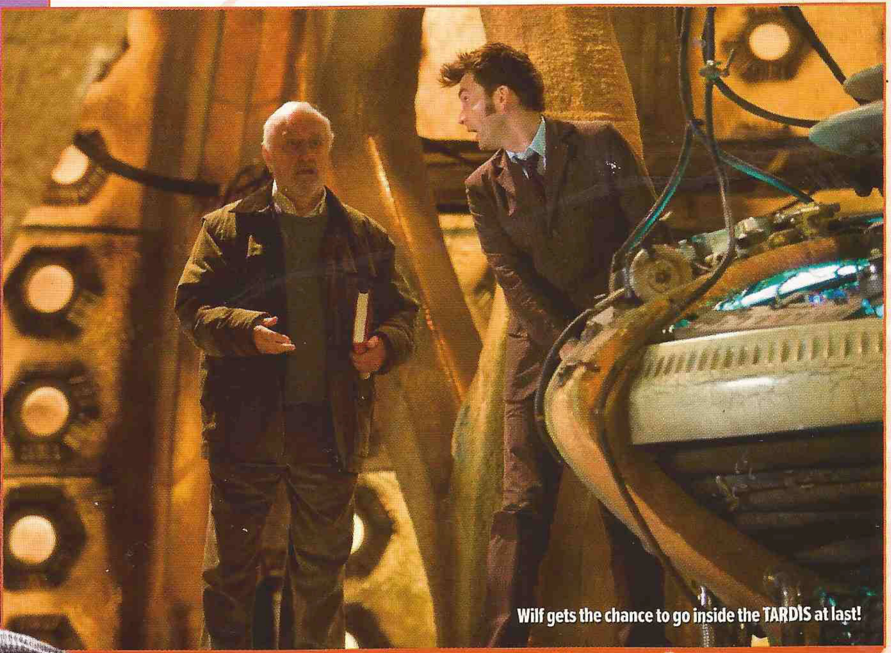
BUT *WHAT THE HELL IS IT?!*

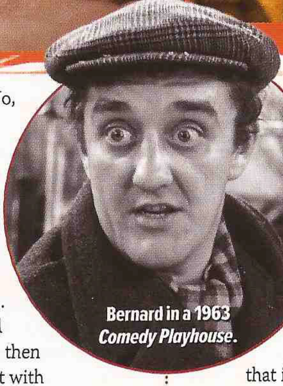
"Okay. I've no idea. Ted Dicks, who wrote the music, lived in Victoria. Yeah, somewhere down there. *Hole in the Ground* [his earlier hit] made some money for him, so he moved flats to somewhere in Islington, I think it was. He was underneath a greengrocer shop, in the basement flat. Very nice. And he'd bought a mini-grand piano from Harrods. The Harrods deliverymen arrived with this thing – in their bowler hats, the full works, right? – and asked him where he wanted his piano. He said, 'Down here,' and pointed to the stairs down to his basement flat. They said, 'What, past the sacks of potatoes?!' They had to take the mini-grand to pieces somewhat, and I do believe that was what inspired Miles Rudge, who also wrote the lyrics to *Hole in the Ground*. That was the germ of the idea. It even had little candleholders on the side!"





Just one of Bernard's astonishing 111 appearances presenting *Jackanory*.


Wilf gets the chance to go inside the TARDIS at last!


Bernard in a 1963 *Comedy Playhouse*.

writers, actors are lumps of meat. No, they are! You do nothing unless you've the words to play with. I think a lot of it comes from experience, from both of us in that particular case, but you enter into the emotion of the scene, and it works. This sounds rather pompous, but it's not at all. It works. You know when it works. If you had to sit down and rehearse that scene, then wonder how to do it… but you don't with scenes like that. You learn it, you go in, you say it the way it's written. You look deep into David's eyes, and he's taking it in, and you're getting it all back from him. This is one of the most satisfying things about acting, especially with this sort of material. I'm glad that you like it. I'm looking forward to seeing it."

The Tenth Doctor's swansong also reunites Bernard with Catherine Tate and Jacqueline King as Donna Noble and her mum Sylvia, and pits Wilf against John Simm's Master for the first time. "John Simm? Who's John Simm?" laughs Bernard. "Is he in this? What a masterful performance. He's a lovely actor. And that Catherine Tate – !"

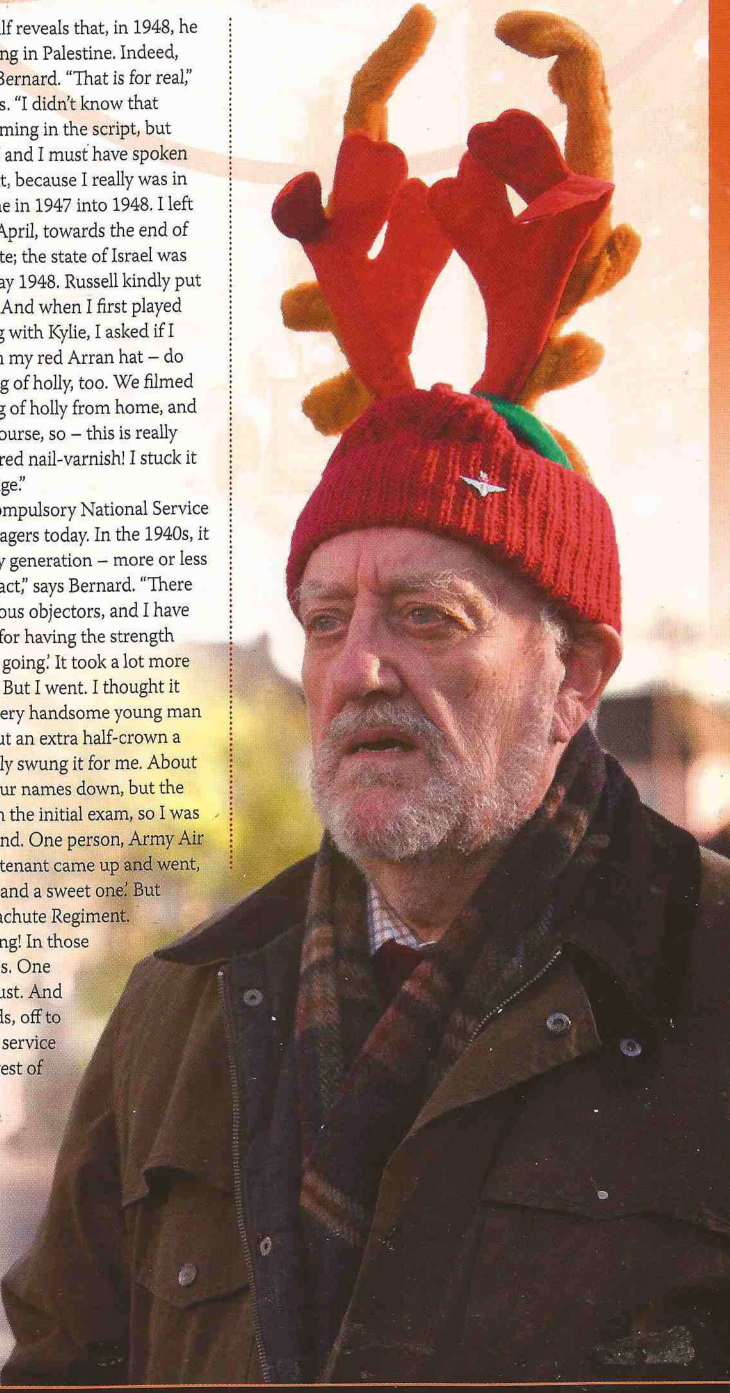
They all speak very highly of you, too, Bernard.

"Really?" He laughs again, but seems genuinely pleased. "Do I get extra money now?"

Why does Bernard think his co-stars adore him?

"I think probably some of it comes from the fact that they've grown up with me," he considers. "That, maybe, accounts for the affection that they show me when we meet up. I think they know that I'll turn up, know the lines, hit the marks, and sound pretty, but I think they probably get fed up of the stories I come out with. Because I have been around a long time! Someone will say something about this or that, and I will say, 'That reminds me of…' And I'm off. I don't think anyone's walked away going, 'God, how boring,' but I do find myself telling stories, and possibly repeating them, but that's because I'm very old." Bernard is 80. He turns 81 on 29 December. "But it's lovely to be amongst actors, because it's what I've always done. I've been amongst actors since I was 14."

Born in Oldham, Lancashire (now Greater Manchester), in 1928, Bernard joined the Oldham Repertory Theatre Company in 1943, initially as a stage manager. He stayed for eight years, pausing only to undertake National Service with the Parachute Regiment – regimental motto: 'Utrinque Paratus' ('Ready for Anything') – at the age of 18. In *The End of Time*, Wilf reveals that, in 1948, he was serving in Palestine. Indeed, so was Bernard. "That is for real," he grins. "I didn't know that was coming in the script, but Russell and I must have spoken about it, because I really was in Palestine in 1947 into 1948. I left there in April, towards the end of the Mandate; the state of Israel was founded in May 1948. Russell kindly put that into the script. And when I first played Wilf, in the Christmas thing with Kylie, I asked if I could put my Para badge on my red Arran hat – do you remember? I had a sprig of holly, too. We filmed in July, and I brought a sprig of holly from home, and the berries were green, of course, so – this is really anal – I painted them with red nail-varnish! I stuck it in the hat alongside my badge."



Mercifully, the idea of compulsory National Service is alien to most British teenagers today. In the 1940s, it was standard. "People of my generation – more or less everybody – accepted the fact," says Bernard. "There were one or two conscientious objectors, and I have great admiration for them, for having the strength of mind to say, 'No, I'm not going.' It took a lot more courage, I think, to do that. But I went. I thought it would be an adventure. A very handsome young man with a red beret talked about an extra half-crown a day in the Paras, which really swung it for me. About six of us in our intake put our names down, but the other five didn't get through the initial exam, so I was isolated on the parade ground. One person, Army Air Corp, me! Some spotty lieutenant came up and went, 'Army Air Corp? Short life, and a sweet one.' But I absolutely adored the Parachute Regiment. The adventure of parachuting! In those days, non-directional chutes. One chute, no reserve. Shit or bust. And then, very shortly afterwards, off to Palestine, which was active service – being shot at and all the rest of it. Great adventure."

Now, being shot at *must* change your perspective on life…?

"I don't think it changed me at all, but it was rather surprising at the time!" He smiles, a nostalgic smile. "Two out of six of us were hit. It's a worry at the time, but it ▸

BERNARD ON...

Bernard Cribbins has met a lot of remarkable people. This is what he had to say about some of them...

ALFRED HITCHCOCK

"I was in *Frenzy*, which was one of the last films he directed. He'd watch a scene begin, watch us do the middle of the scene... and then leave before it was done! He had every trust in his boys – camera, sound, lighting – if they told him that it was all okay. Either that or he'd never get out of his chair! He was very approachable, though. We used to swap limericks and things. Hitchcock liked limericks. He loved jokes."

PAUL McCARTNEY

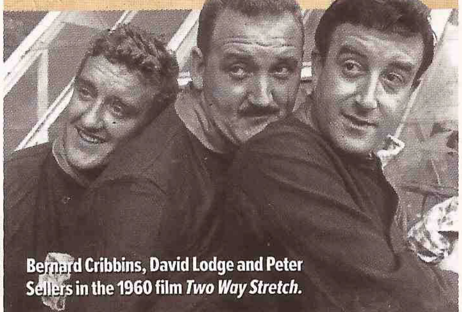
"It was 1972. Paul was on tour with Wings out in Germany, and I was doing my first directing job on German television. It was a sketch show. I'd been brought in at the last minute. It was all in German. I didn't speak German. I was thinking, oh God, what have I let myself in for?! It was eight o'clock on a Monday morning, and I came out of the hotel, heading to the car that would take me to Bavaria Film Studios... and there was this big open-top bus parked outside, with 'Wings Over Europe' written on it. And walking down the side of it was Paul McCartney, with a little redheaded baby, which is Stella. He looked at me and went, 'It's you!' He recognised me. So, I told him about my directing job. I said, 'Paul, I'm s****ing blue lights.' He said, 'Bernard, you'll be fine.' He gave me a great boost. 'You'll be great!' I went off to the studios feeling much better. Afterwards, I was asked back to do six more shows. So, Paul McCartney saved my career... in Germany!"

DAVID NIVEN

"If you ask me who's my favourite film star I've worked with, it'd have to be David Niven. He was the governor. He was utterly disciplined – as is our David, David Tennant. They're both wonderful leaders of a company. Niven and I were filming [*The Best of Enemies*] in the desert in Israel. I used to go swimming with him at lunchtime. We'd go down to the Red Sea. He had the snorkelling gear and everything. One evening, we went out for supper – fish soup and bread, and a lot of white wine – and Niven recited the whole of [his biography] *The Moon's a Balloon*. The more pissed we got, the better the stories became! It was fantastic. There are people who've equalled him, but nobody's better."

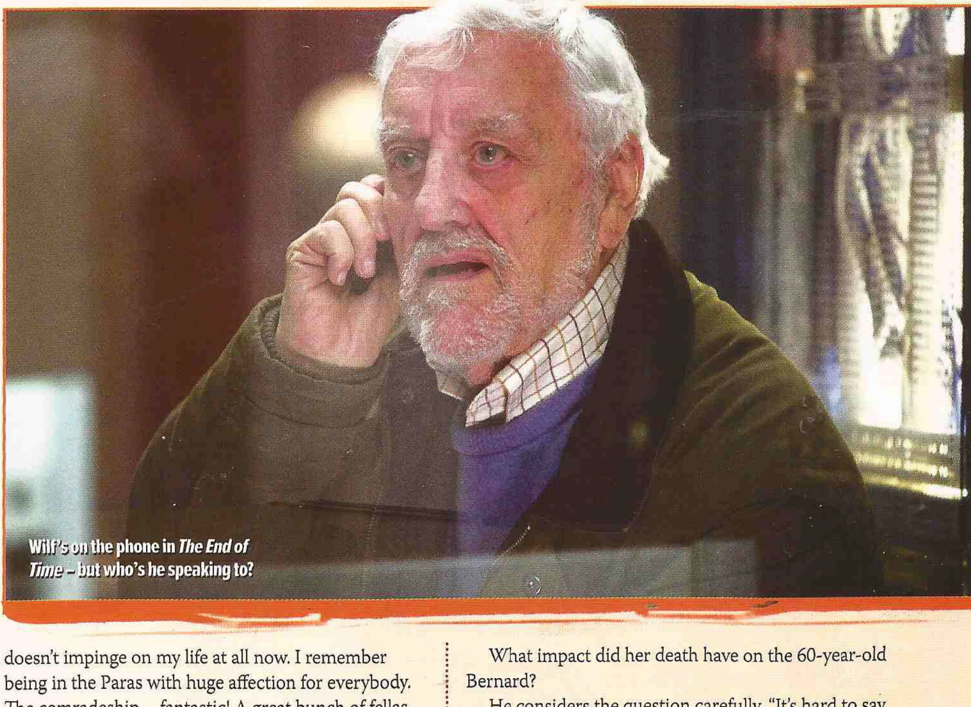
PETER SELLERS

"I worked with him before he went totally ballistic and somewhat odd. He became a bit sort of starry, I felt, and started throwing his weight about. He was more difficult than he should have been, but such a talented man. One of the greatest films he ever did, which I had the good fortune to be in with him, was *The Wrong Arm of the Law*. He was so bloody good in that – understated, nice and subtle, and very, very clever. He really was cracking. We had some good times on that. He was a mate."



Bernard Cribbins, David Lodge and Peter Sellers in the 1960 film *Two Way Stretch*.

© Rex Features x 4



Wilf's on the phone in *The End of Time* – but who's he speaking to?

◀ doesn't impinge on my life at all now. I remember being in the Paras with huge affection for everybody. The comradeship – fantastic! A great bunch of fellas. I'm still connected in as much as that I belong to the Airborne Flyfishers, which is a bunch of old warriors who go flyfishing together. Very recently, in the last three months, I've heard from a guy called Costello, who lives in Yorkshire, who was company clerk when I was in Palestine. He's a year older than I am. He's sent me loads of bumph – a picture of me in Germany, lying on a wall, looking rather camp."

Ask Bernard for his attitude towards growing old, and he states, matter-of-factly, "It's one of those things. I'm reasonably healthy. I've had a triple bypass, but that's mechanical, isn't it? My energy is diminishing, but that's a fact of life. I may drop off in the next question," he jokes. In truth, at 80 years young, Bernard has more energy than many actors half his age. "It's all drugs, you know! No, I don't know what it is. It's enthusiasm – a lot of it – for the job. You've got to treat every performance with enthusiasm and attack. Maybe energy breeds energy."

Not wanting to sound patronising, but... isn't he shattered?

"No, I don't think it's patronising to ask. I've always been fully energised, all my life, but it is diminishing now, I must admit. Yeah. You couldn't have lived with me 40 years ago! Being an actor, in the theatre particularly... I mean, a lot of actors say, 'How can you do a year in a play?' But every night is a first night, because the people who come to see it – unless they're totally mad – haven't been before. I did a year in the West End with Elaine Paige in *Anything Goes*, which is when Barrowman joined the fraternity, actually." This is the 1989 production of the Cole Porter musical, in which Bernard played Moonface Martin, and John Barrowman – who would later find fame as *Doctor Who* and *Torchwood*'s Captain Jack – made his professional acting début, playing Billy Crocker. "It was his first job. I remember it vividly."

So, Bernard is partly responsible for John Barrowman's career...?

"No, no, no, no, no. I absolve myself from anything he does or says. But Elaine and I are in his book [John's 2008 autobiography, also titled *Anything Goes*] as sort of mentors. But I remember it so well because it was 3 October 1989, the night my mother died, when John joined the company. I didn't know that she'd died until the following day." Ethel Cribbins was 92.

What impact did her death have on the 60-year-old Bernard?

He considers the question carefully. "It's hard to say. I think I was much more affected when my dad died, because I was actually there." Bernard's father, John, died in the 1960s. "There was a great sort of void after he died. I was married then and living down south, and he was still in Lancashire, but we'd gone up there when he was ill. But when mum died, it was very strange going on stage, being jolly and singing songs, when you knew that the night before..." He trails off.

"Do you want a spooky story? On 3 October, at about six o'clock, I was doing live telly on Sky, talking about the fact that Barrowman was joining the company. We were in the old Windmill Theatre, just around the corner from the Prince Edward, where we were doing the show, and I was on telly plugging away, talking about this young man, John Barrowman. I said, 'My mum will love him.' And I looked straight down the lens: 'You'd love this, wouldn't you, Ethel?' And then I went, 'Oh, no, of course, you haven't got Sky, have you?' And that," he says, folding his arms, "was at about six o'clock, when she died.

Donna (Catherine Tate) has a joyful reunion with her gramps in *The Sontaran Stratagem*.

Wilf points out the oldest member of a gr
of senior citizens in *The End of Ti*

"Over my long career, I've never worked with a better crew anywhere. It's been a very happy, very satisfying little job."

"Shall I tell you another one? Another spooky?" Somehow, **DWM** has gotten itself into a one-to-one ghost-storytelling session with Sir Bernard of Cribbins. This is the man with 111 episodes of *Jackanory* to his name! *Of course* we want another one! "There was a dear friend of ours, a guy called Gerry Crampton, who was one of Hollywood's top stuntmen. He died at the end of January this year. We were helping his brother tidy up the flat. He said, 'Would you like Gerry's phone?' It was better than mine. I said, 'Yeah, I'll take it.' I took out the SIM card, and put in mine. Two days later, I was sitting at home, watching telly, and Gerry's phone, with my card in it, was on the table besides me. But it wasn't switched on. The landline rang, so I picked it up. 'Hello?' Nothing. Crackle, crackle, nothing. I hung up, dialled 1471 [to find out who phoned him last]... it was my mobile number! I rang O2, and they said that was impossible. There was no way a mobile that was turned off could ring my landline. They couldn't explain it. Isn't that a spooky? I wasn't there when Gerry died – nobody was – and I think that was him getting in touch to say, 'See ya!' A mischievous spirit."

Weren't you scared?

"It spooked me out a bit, but I wasn't scared."

You believe in ghosts, then?

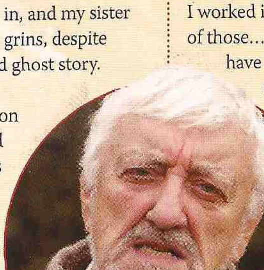
"I keep a lump of wood with a nail in it by my bed, just in case! How can you not think that there's something going on? Many years ago, on 5 November, I was walking home from the theatre in Oldham, and I was maybe 300 yards from home – we lived on a council estate then – and suddenly I felt a hand on my chest, stopping me dead. A big hand. And a voice in my ear: 'Someone in the house has been burned, and it's a female.' Sure enough, I got in, and my sister had been burned by a firework." He grins, despite himself. "Good, isn't it? I love a good ghost story. Isn't it wonderful?"

Dragging the conversation back on topic, **DWM** wonders how Bernard feels about coming to the end of his time on *Doctor Who*? After all, it's the end of an era in more ways than one...

"Yes, I think Wilfred is finished with now that David has exited from the thing," Bernard agrees. "I was thinking the other day, he must be feeling absolutely extraordinary about having come to the end of four years – more than four series-worth. I don't know how he's feeling. I don't suppose he knows either. He must be feeling rather weird.

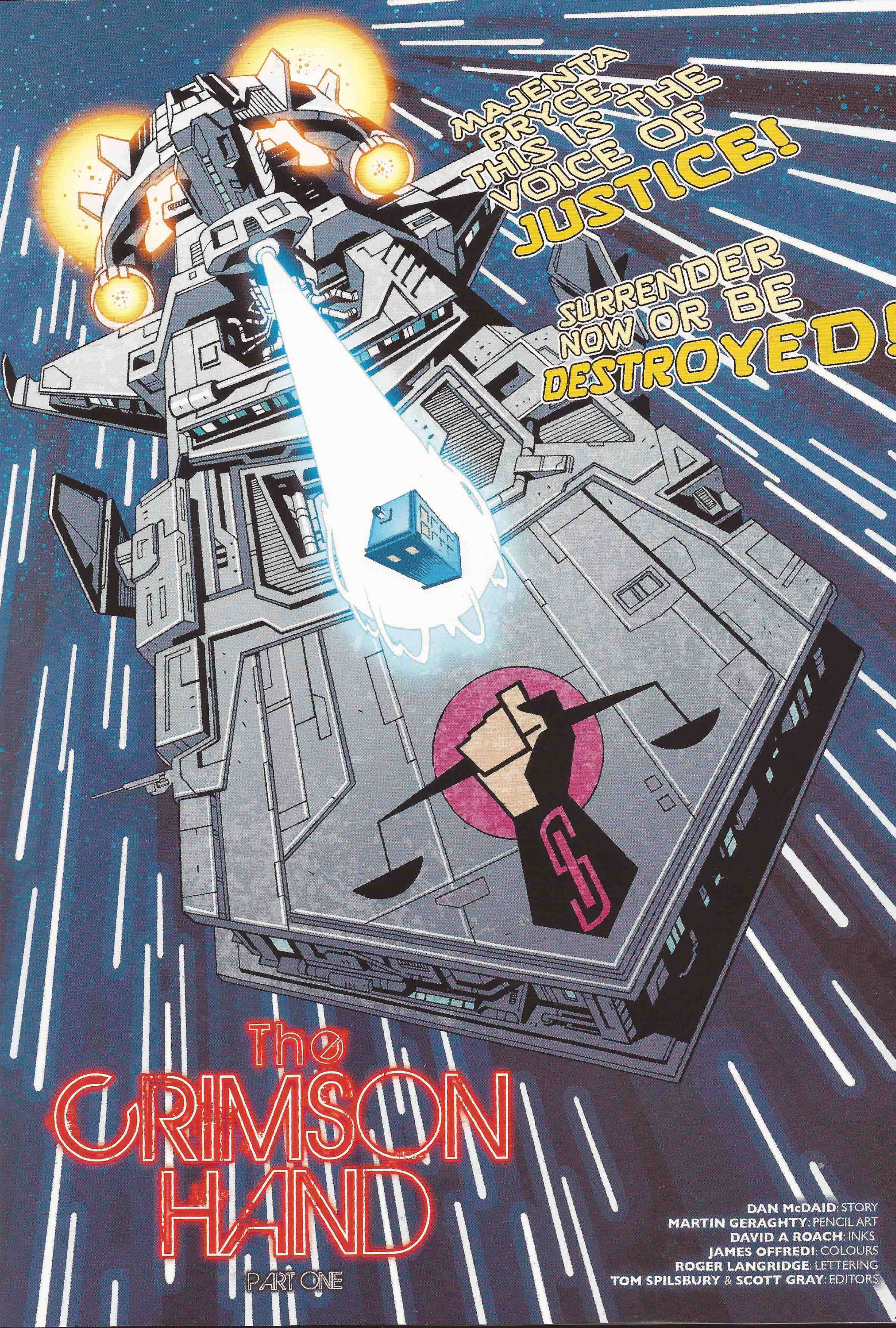
A mixture of emotions, **DWM** suggests.

"A total mixture, yes. This is it. It's a bewildering situation. He's either very relieved to have come to the end of it safely, or totally unhappy that's it's finished and he's got to move on. He's not going to be out of work for a few years, is he? But it's a long, long time to be in one job. I said to him the other day, 'I bet you'll be glad you're not hurtling up and down that M4 all the time.' And then I said, 'I bet you wish you'd had a quid for every mile you've travelled!' I've only been on these two Specials for about two months, and I've done over 3,000 miles up and down that motorway! I worked it out: it's 150 down, 150 up, and you do ten of those... it's amazing, isn't it? How many must David have done? Someone should work it out. You should have a competition in your magazine.



Everyone's favourite TV grandad!

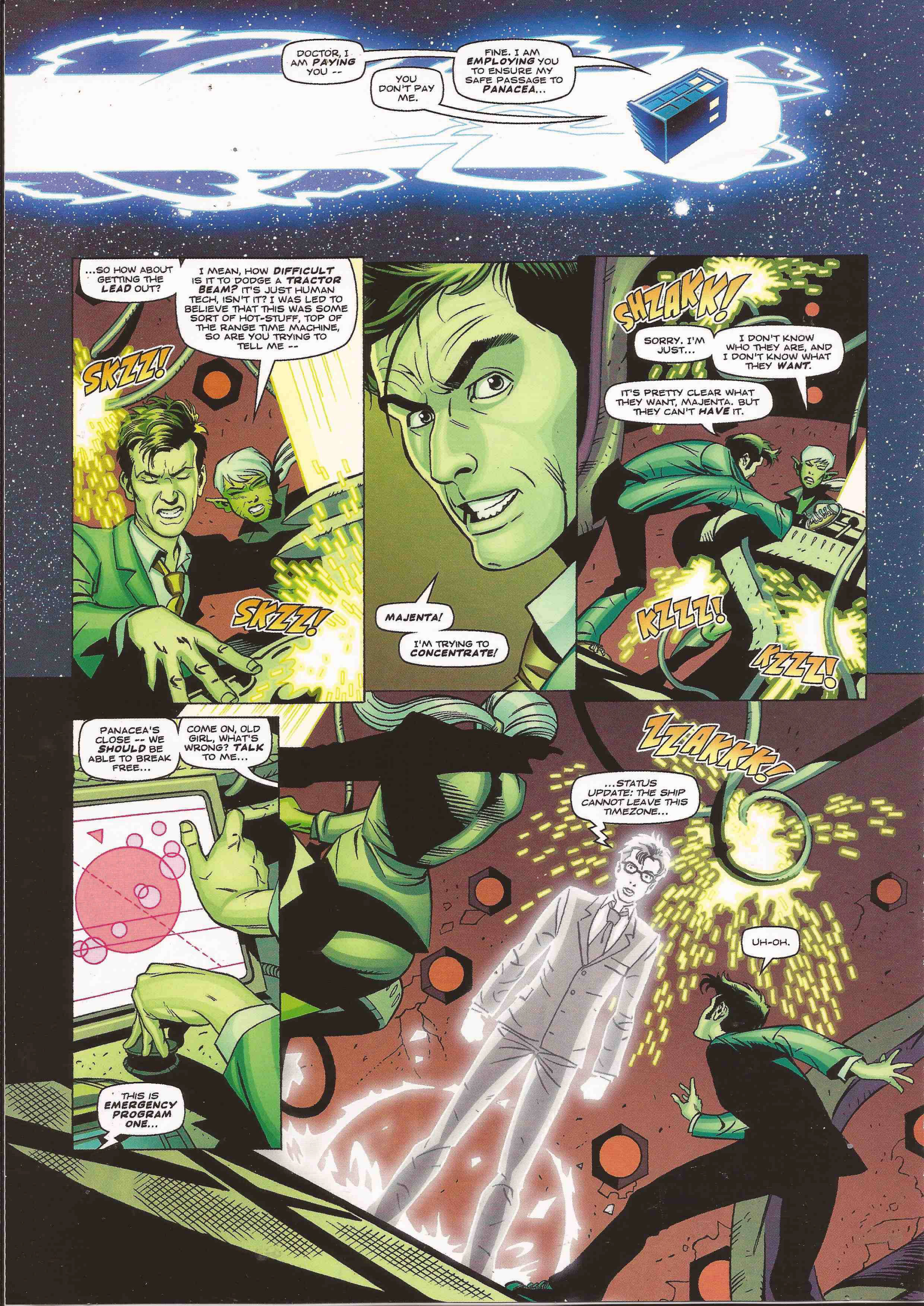
"For me, it's been a joy to come down to Cardiff again. I haven't seen too much of the city, so I don't mean that, but the actual working ambience at BBC Wales. It's a knockout place to work. The crew is fantastic. Over my long career, I've never worked with a better crew, anywhere. They're bloody marvellous. It's been a very happy, very satisfying little job. I'm sorry that it's come to an end, but they always do. No job lasts forever. It's not like working in... I don't know, whatever the job might be, where you start at 17, go on til you're 65, and then stop. These are all short-term things – and they're extremely intense, because of the nature of the work. You live in each other's heads and hearts for whatever it is, two months or something, and then suddenly you say, 'See ya. Goodbye' – and you're gone. I might never see David again – for six months, eight months, two years or whatever. The same with everybody. He'll be off doing something else, and hopefully so will I. But we'll meet up now and again, I hope."

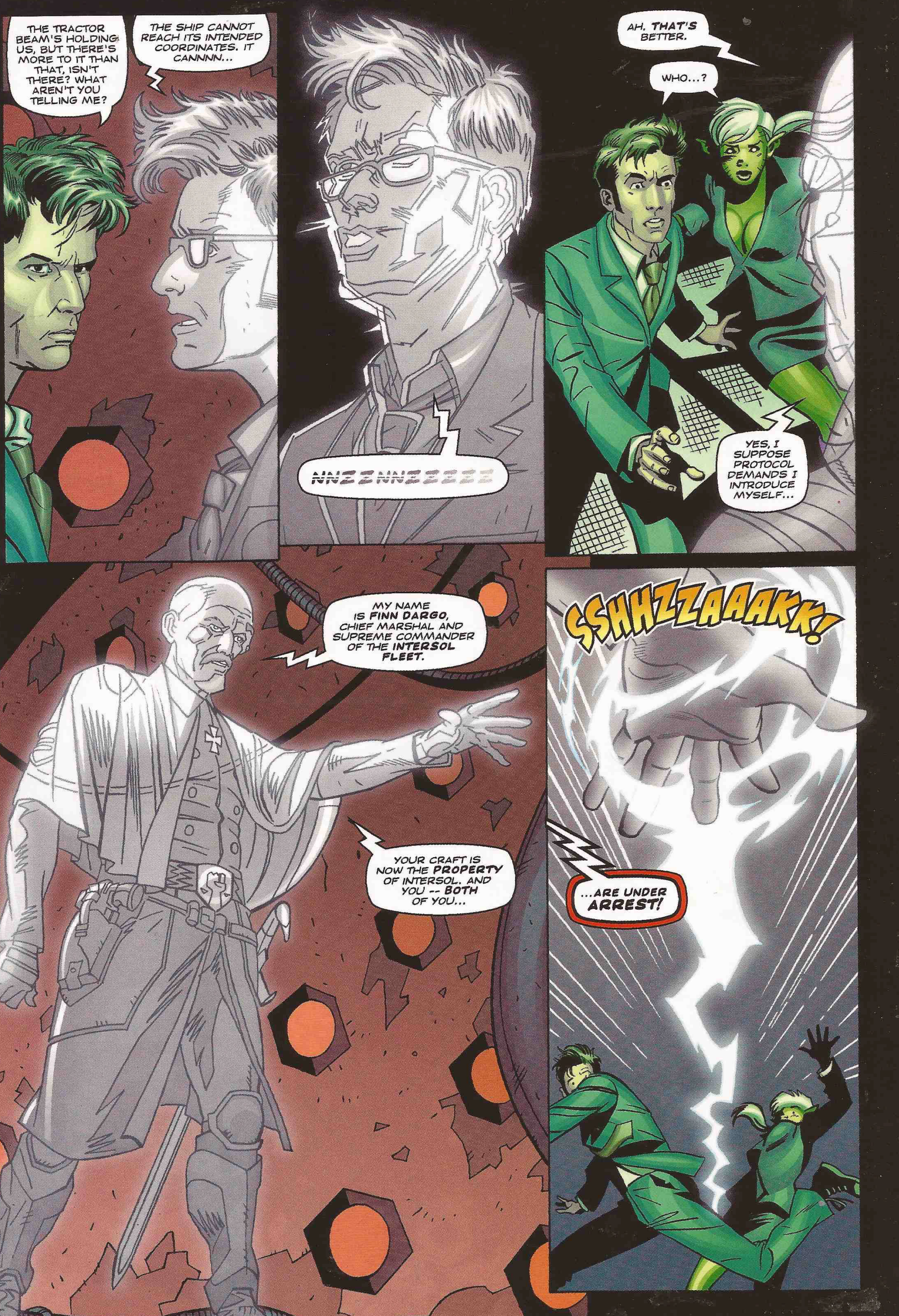

MAJENTA PRYCE, THIS IS THE VOICE OF JUSTICE!
SURRENDER NOW OR BE DESTROYED!

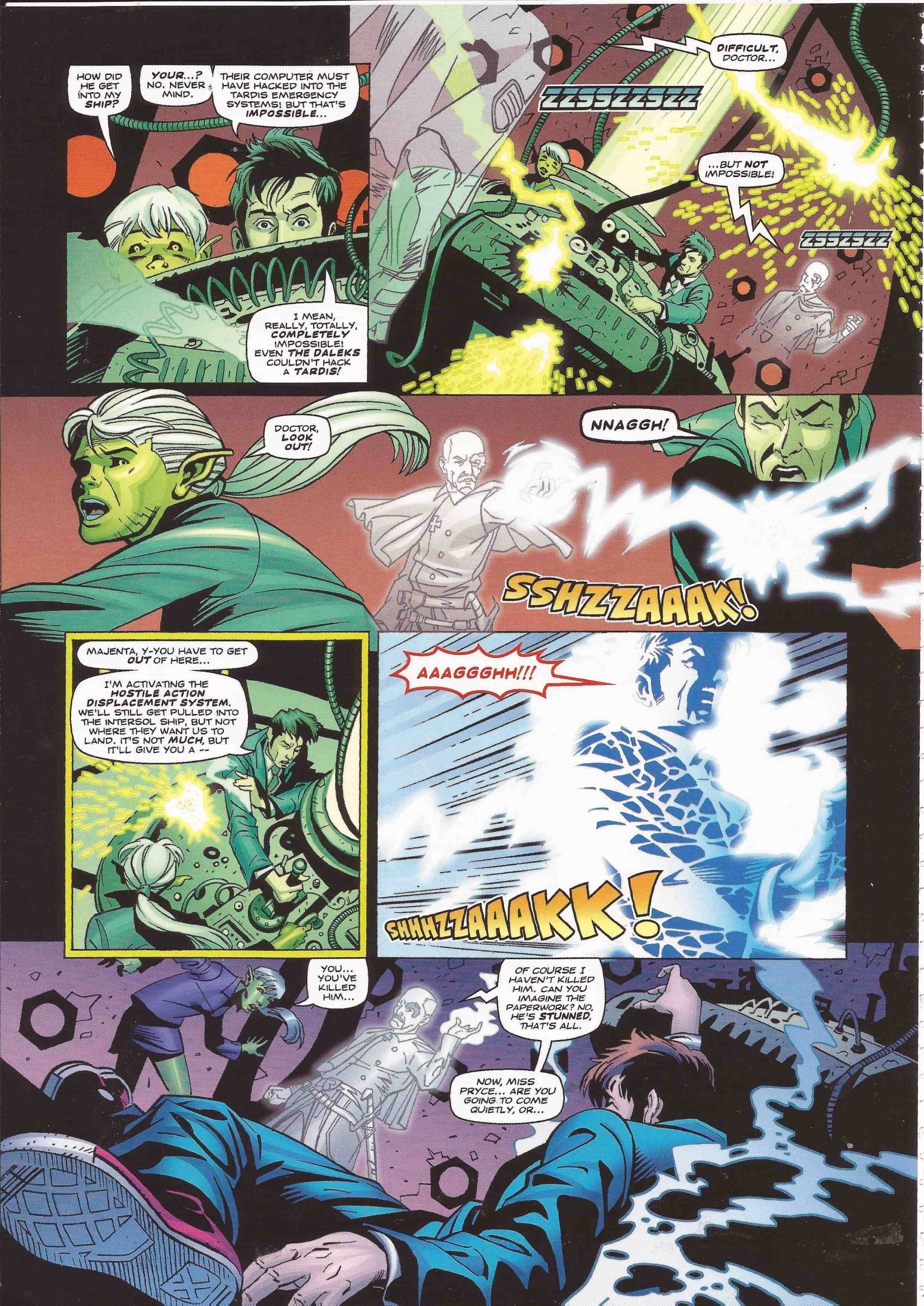
The CRIMSON HAND

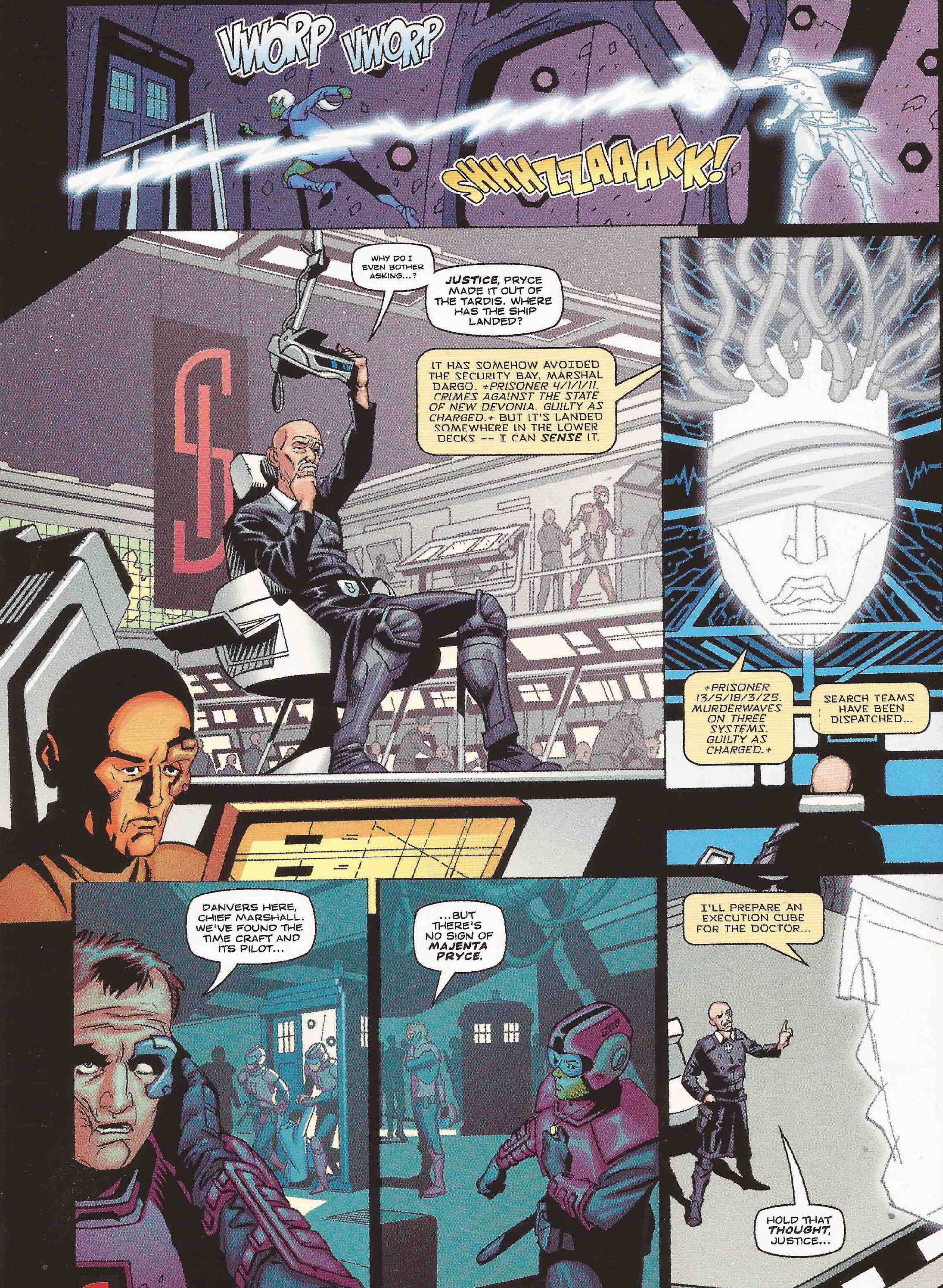
PART ONE

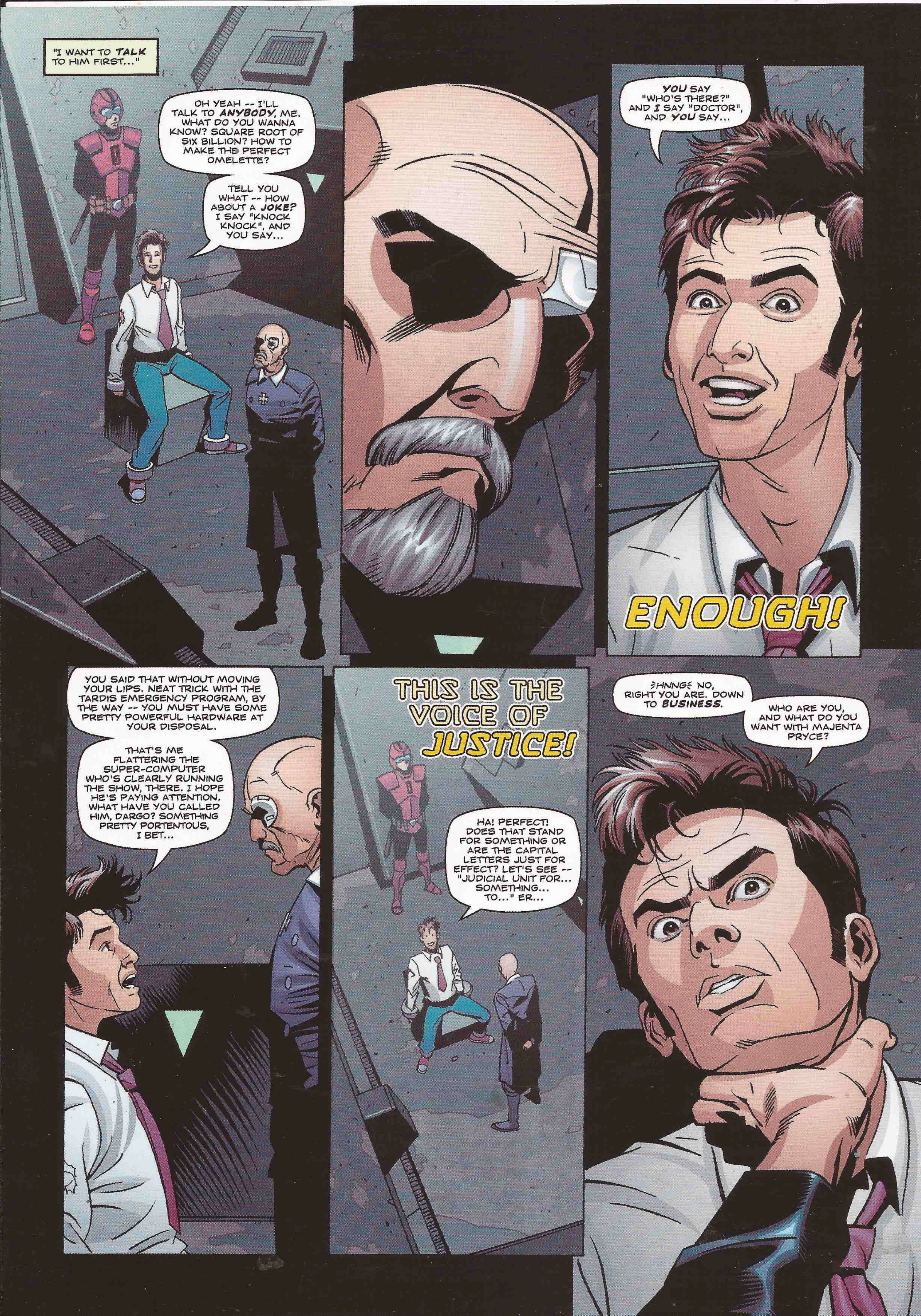
DAN McDAID: STORY
MARTIN GERAGHTY: PENCIL ART
DAVID A ROACH: INKS
JAMES OFFREDI: COLOURS
ROGER LANGRIDGE: LETTERING
TOM SPILSBURY & **SCOTT GRAY**: EDITORS

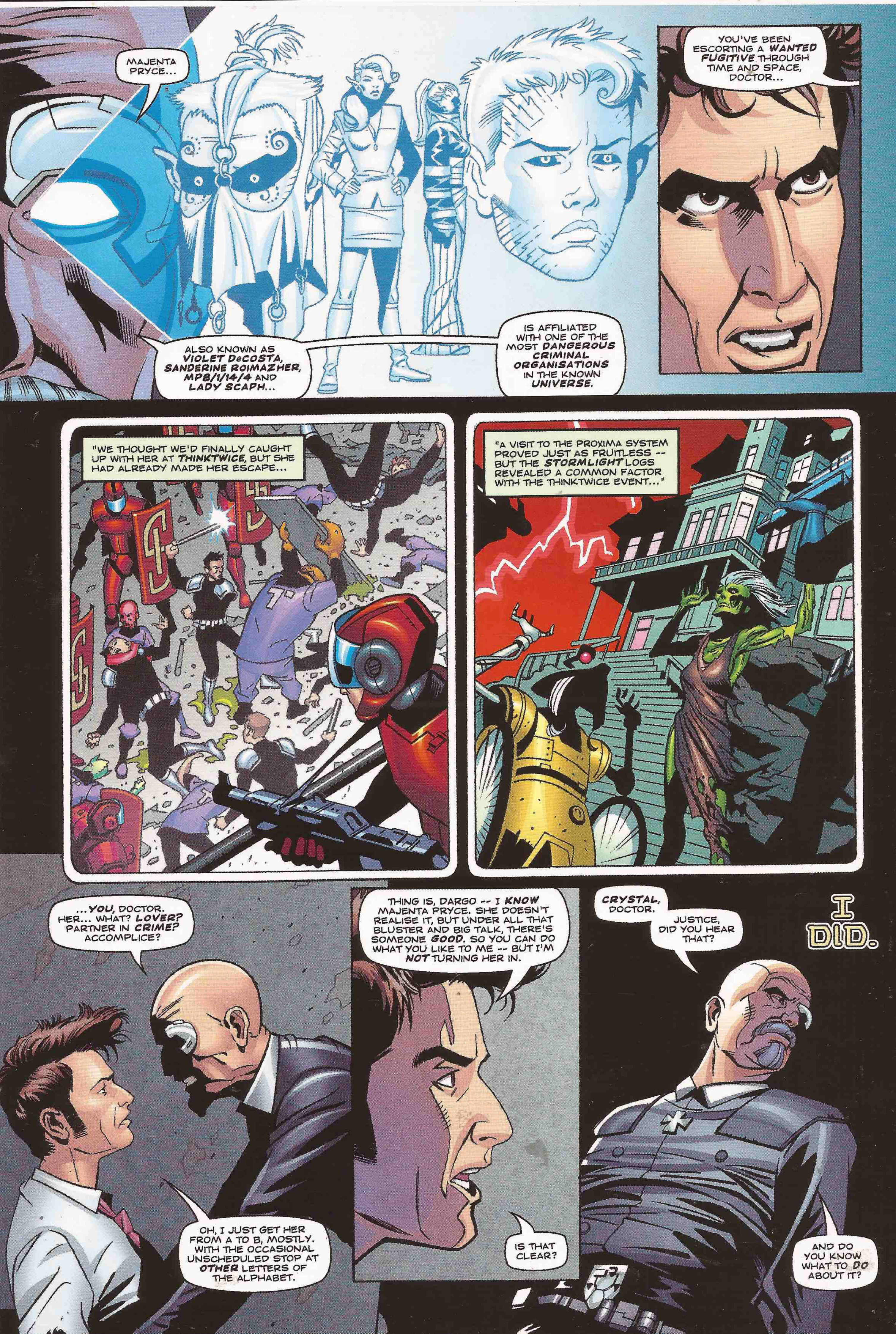

DOCTOR, I AM PAYING YOU --
YOU DON'T PAY ME.
FINE. I AM EMPLOYING YOU TO ENSURE MY SAFE PASSAGE TO PANACEA...
...SO HOW ABOUT GETTING THE LEAD OUT?
I MEAN, HOW DIFFICULT IS IT TO DODGE A TRACTOR BEAM? IT'S JUST HUMAN TECH, ISN'T IT? I WAS LED TO BELIEVE THAT THIS WAS SOME SORT OF HOT-STUFF, TOP OF THE RANGE TIME MACHINE, SO ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME --
SKZZ!
SKZZ!
MAJENTA!
I'M TRYING TO CONCENTRATE!
SHZAKK!
SORRY. I'M JUST...
I DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.
IT'S PRETTY CLEAR WHAT THEY WANT, MAJENTA. BUT THEY CAN'T HAVE IT.
KZZZ!
KZZZ!
PANACEA'S CLOSE -- WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BREAK FREE...
COME ON, OLD GIRL, WHAT'S WRONG? TALK TO ME...
THIS IS EMERGENCY PROGRAM ONE...
ZZAKKK!
...STATUS UPDATE: THE SHIP CANNOT LEAVE THIS TIMEZONE...
UH-OH.

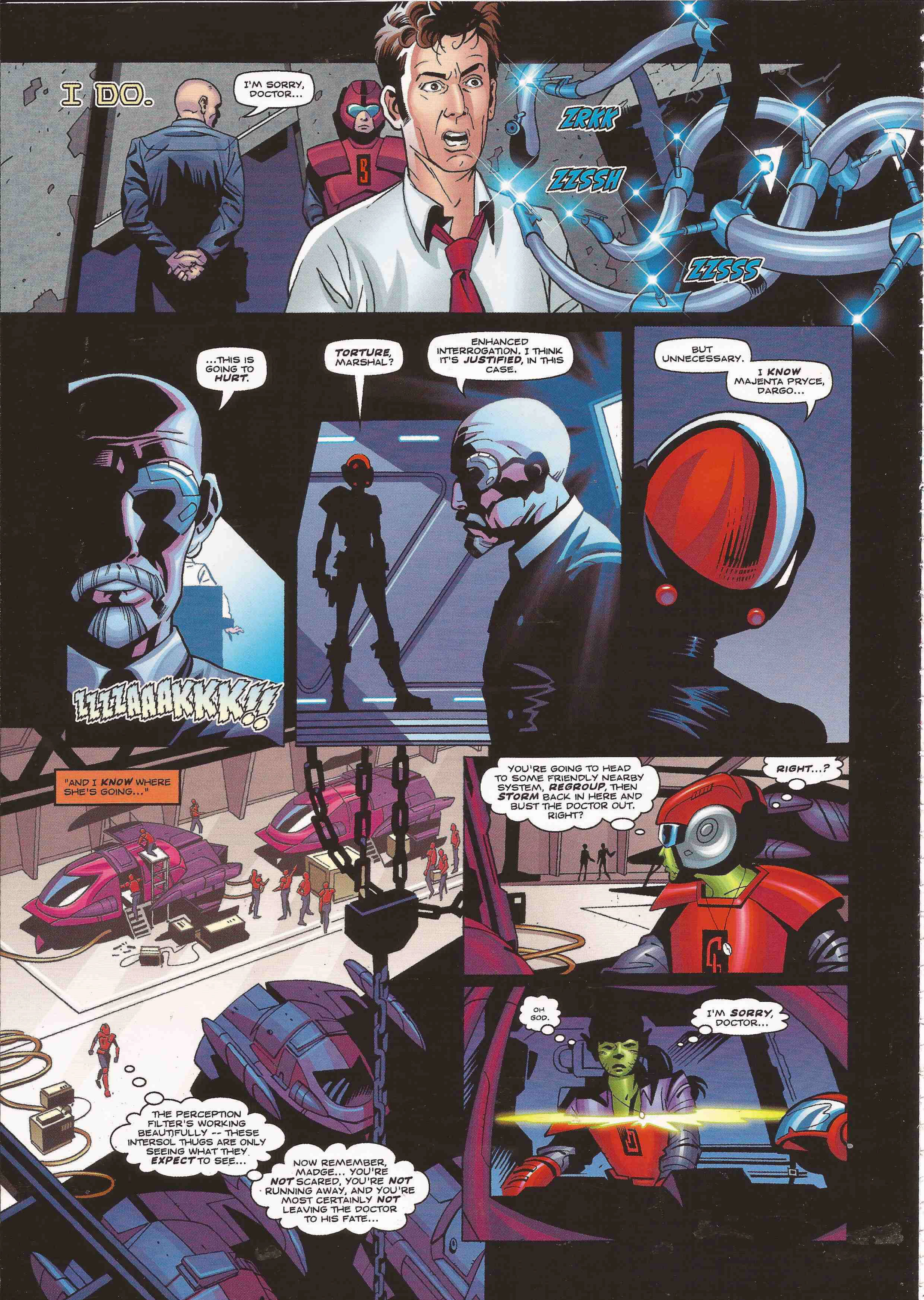

THE TRACTOR BEAM'S HOLDING US, BUT THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN THAT, ISN'T THERE? WHAT AREN'T YOU TELLING ME?
THE SHIP CANNOT REACH ITS INTENDED COORDINATES. IT CANNNN...
NNZZNNZZZZZ
AH. THAT'S BETTER.
WHO...?
YES, I SUPPOSE PROTOCOL DEMANDS I INTRODUCE MYSELF...
MY NAME IS FINN DARGO, CHIEF MARSHAL AND SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE INTERSOL FLEET.
YOUR CRAFT IS NOW THE PROPERTY OF INTERSOL. AND YOU -- BOTH OF YOU...
SSHHZZAAAKK!
...ARE UNDER ARREST!

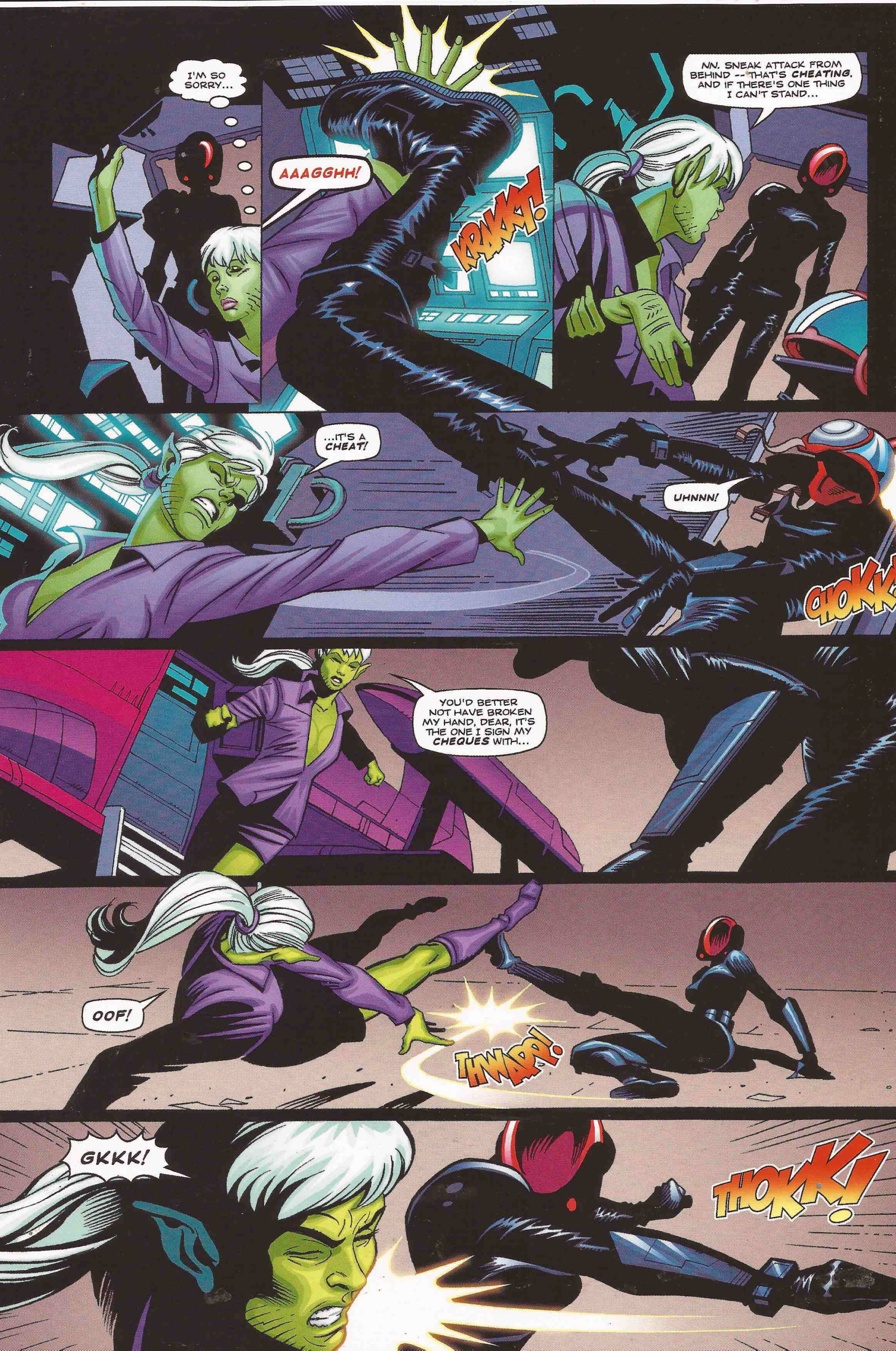

HOW DID HE GET INTO MY SHIP?
YOUR...? NO. NEVER MIND.
THEIR COMPUTER MUST HAVE HACKED INTO THE TARDIS EMERGENCY SYSTEMS! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...
I MEAN, REALLY, TOTALLY, COMPLETELY IMPOSSIBLE! EVEN THE DALEKS COULDN'T HACK A TARDIS!
DIFFICULT, DOCTOR...
ZZSSZZSZZ
...BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE!
ZSSZSZZ
DOCTOR, LOOK OUT!
NNAGGH!
SSHZZAAAK!
MAJENTA, Y-YOU HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE...
I'M ACTIVATING THE HOSTILE ACTION DISPLACEMENT SYSTEM. WE'LL STILL GET PULLED INTO THE INTERSOL SHIP, BUT NOT WHERE THEY WANT US TO LAND. IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT IT'LL GIVE YOU A --
AAAGGGHH!!!
SHHHZZAAAKK!
YOU... YOU'VE KILLED HIM...
OF COURSE I HAVEN'T KILLED HIM. CAN YOU IMAGINE THE PAPERWORK? NO, HE'S STUNNED, THAT'S ALL.
NOW, MISS PRYCE... ARE YOU GOING TO COME QUIETLY, OR...

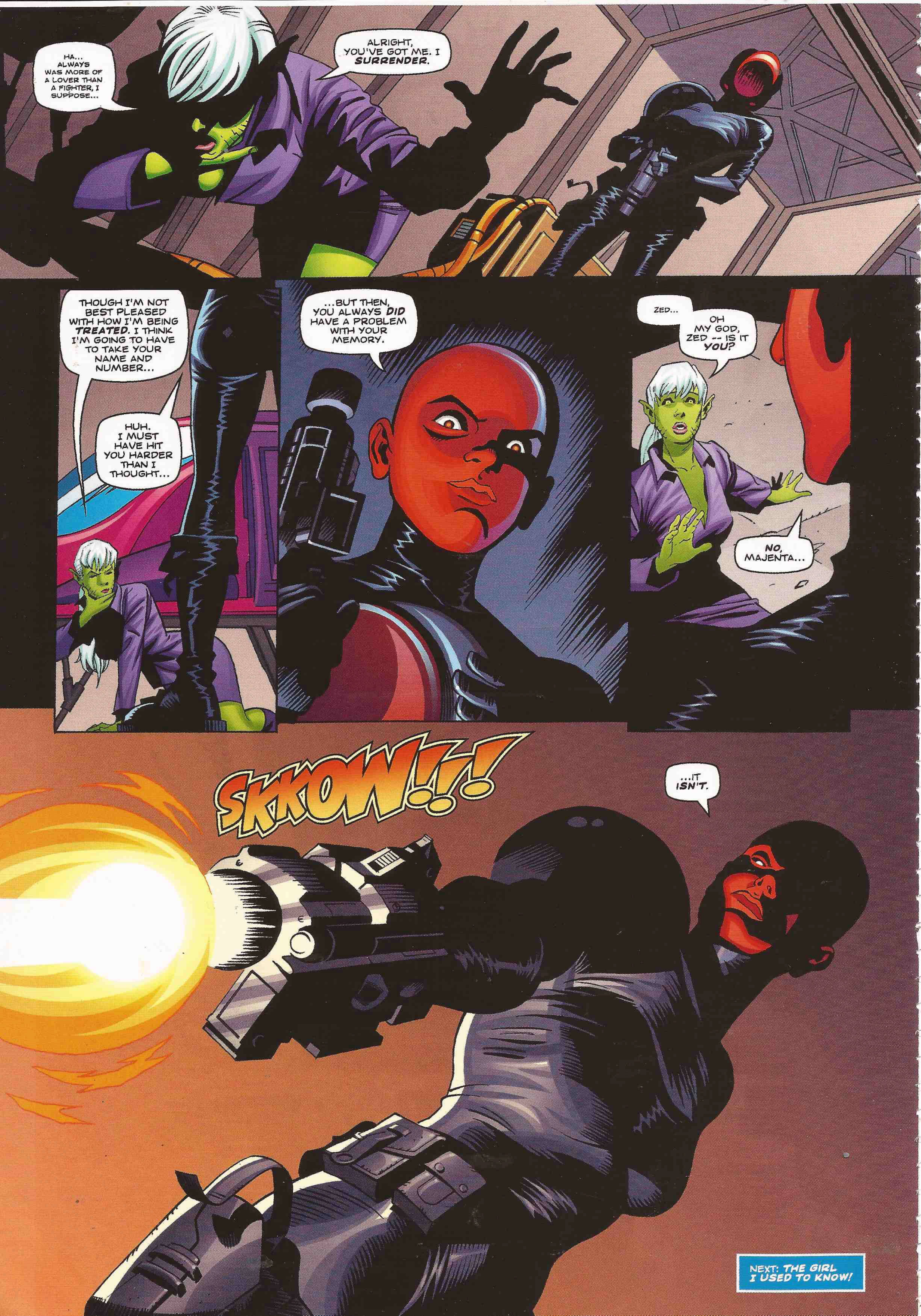

VWORP VWORP
SHHHZZAAAKK!
WHY DO I EVEN BOTHER ASKING...?
JUSTICE, PRYCE MADE IT OUT OF THE TARDIS. WHERE HAS THE SHIP LANDED?
IT HAS SOMEHOW AVOIDED THE SECURITY BAY, MARSHAL DARGO. *+PRISONER 4/1/1/11. CRIMES AGAINST THE STATE OF NEW DEVONIA. GUILTY AS CHARGED.+* BUT IT'S LANDED SOMEWHERE IN THE LOWER DECKS -- I CAN ***SENSE*** IT.
+PRISONER 13/5/18/3/25. MURDERWAVES ON THREE SYSTEMS. GUILTY AS CHARGED.+
SEARCH TEAMS HAVE BEEN DISPATCHED...
DANVERS HERE, CHIEF MARSHALL. WE'VE FOUND THE TIME CRAFT AND ITS PILOT...
...BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF ***MAJENTA PRYCE***.
I'LL PREPARE AN EXECUTION CUBE FOR THE DOCTOR...
HOLD THAT ***THOUGHT***, JUSTICE...


"I WANT TO *TALK* TO HIM FIRST..."
OH YEAH -- I'LL TALK TO *ANYBODY*, ME. WHAT DO YOU WANNA KNOW? SQUARE ROOT OF SIX BILLION? HOW TO MAKE THE PERFECT OMELETTE?
TELL YOU WHAT -- HOW ABOUT A *JOKE*? I SAY "KNOCK KNOCK", AND YOU SAY...
YOU SAY "WHO'S THERE?" AND *I* SAY "DOCTOR", AND *YOU* SAY...
ENOUGH!
YOU SAID THAT WITHOUT MOVING YOUR LIPS. NEAT TRICK WITH THE TARDIS EMERGENCY PROGRAM, BY THE WAY -- YOU MUST HAVE SOME PRETTY POWERFUL HARDWARE AT YOUR DISPOSAL.
THAT'S ME FLATTERING THE SUPER-COMPUTER WHO'S CLEARLY RUNNING THE SHOW, THERE. I HOPE HE'S PAYING ATTENTION. WHAT HAVE YOU CALLED HIM, DARGO? SOMETHING PRETTY PORTENTOUS, I BET...
THIS IS THE VOICE OF *JUSTICE*!
HA! PERFECT! DOES THAT STAND FOR SOMETHING OR ARE THE CAPITAL LETTERS JUST FOR EFFECT? LET'S SEE -- "JUDICIAL UNIT FOR... SOMETHING... TO..." ER...
HNNG NO, RIGHT YOU ARE. DOWN TO *BUSINESS*.
WHO ARE YOU, AND WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH MAJENTA PRYCE?


MAJENTA PRYCE...
ALSO KNOWN AS VIOLET DeCOSTA, SANDERINE ROIMAZHER, MPB/1/14/4 AND LADY SCAPH...
IS AFFILIATED WITH ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE.
YOU'VE BEEN ESCORTING A WANTED FUGITIVE THROUGH TIME AND SPACE, DOCTOR...
"WE THOUGHT WE'D FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH HER AT THINKTWICE, BUT SHE HAD ALREADY MADE HER ESCAPE...
"A VISIT TO THE PROXIMA SYSTEM PROVED JUST AS FRUITLESS -- BUT THE STORMLIGHT LOGS REVEALED A COMMON FACTOR WITH THE THINKTWICE EVENT..."
...YOU, DOCTOR. HER... WHAT? LOVER? PARTNER IN CRIME? ACCOMPLICE?
OH, I JUST GET HER FROM A TO B, MOSTLY. WITH THE OCCASIONAL UNSCHEDULED STOP AT OTHER LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET.
THING IS, DARGO -- I KNOW MAJENTA PRYCE. SHE DOESN'T REALISE IT, BUT UNDER ALL THAT BLUSTER AND BIG TALK, THERE'S SOMEONE GOOD. SO YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU LIKE TO ME -- BUT I'M NOT TURNING HER IN.
IS THAT CLEAR?
CRYSTAL, DOCTOR.
JUSTICE, DID YOU HEAR THAT?
I DID.
AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT?


I DO.
I'M SORRY, DOCTOR...
ZRKK
ZZSSH
ZZSSS
...THIS IS GOING TO **HURT**.
ZZZZAAAKKK!!!
TORTURE, MARSHAL?
ENHANCED INTERROGATION. I THINK IT'S ***JUSTIFIED***, IN THIS CASE.
BUT UNNECESSARY. I ***KNOW*** MAJENTA PRYCE, DARGO...
"AND I ***KNOW*** WHERE SHE'S GOING..."
YOU'RE GOING TO HEAD TO SOME FRIENDLY NEARBY SYSTEM, ***REGROUP***, THEN ***STORM*** BACK IN HERE AND BUST THE DOCTOR OUT. RIGHT?
RIGHT...?
THE PERCEPTION FILTER'S WORKING BEAUTIFULLY -- THESE INTERSOL THUGS ARE ONLY SEEING WHAT THEY ***EXPECT*** TO SEE...
NOW REMEMBER, MADGE... YOU'RE ***NOT*** SCARED, YOU'RE ***NOT*** RUNNING AWAY, AND YOU'RE MOST CERTAINLY ***NOT*** LEAVING THE DOCTOR TO HIS FATE...
OH GOD.
I'M ***SORRY***, DOCTOR...


I'M SO SORRY...
AAAGGHH!
KRAKKT!
NN. SNEAK ATTACK FROM BEHIND -- THAT'S CHEATING. AND IF THERE'S ONE THING I CAN'T STAND...
...IT'S A CHEAT!
UHNNN!
CHOKK
YOU'D BETTER NOT HAVE BROKEN MY HAND, DEAR, IT'S THE ONE I SIGN MY CHEQUES WITH...
OOF!
THWAPP!
GKKK!
THOKK!

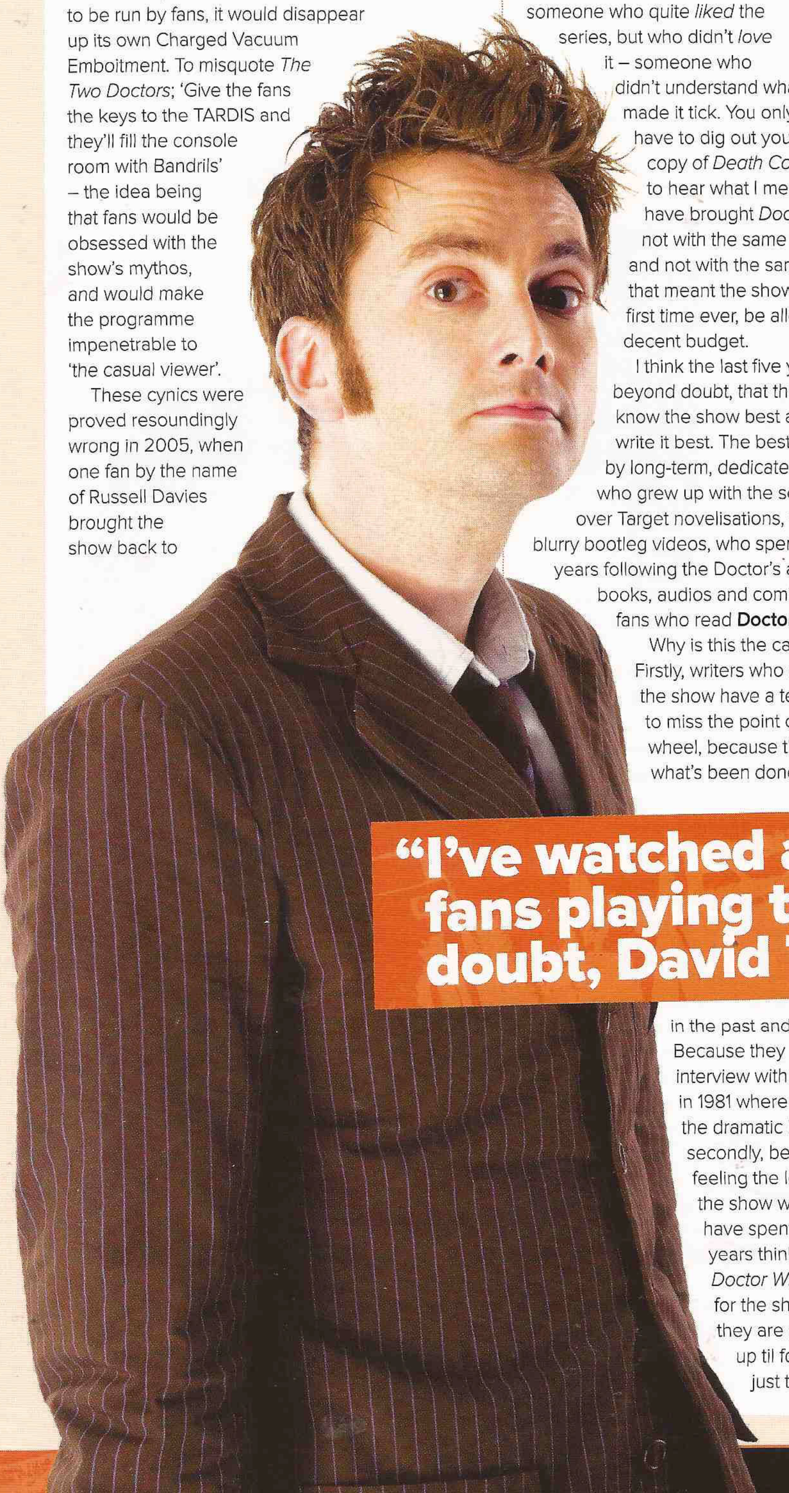

HA... ALWAYS WAS MORE OF A LOVER THAN A FIGHTER, I SUPPOSE...
ALRIGHT, YOU'VE GOT ME. I **SURRENDER**.
THOUGH I'M NOT BEST PLEASED WITH HOW I'M BEING **TREATED**. I THINK I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE YOUR NAME AND NUMBER...
HUH. I MUST HAVE HIT YOU HARDER THAN I THOUGHT...
...BUT THEN, YOU ALWAYS **DID** HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOUR MEMORY.
ZED...
OH MY GOD, ZED -- IS IT **YOU**?
NO, MAJENTA...
SKKOW!!!
...IT **ISN'T**.
NEXT: **THE GIRL I USED TO KNOW!**

Neil Harris charts the rise of the *Doctor Who* fan...

JUST FANTASTIC!

About twenty years or so ago, I attended a *Doctor Who* convention – I can still remember the heady diaphoretic aroma of the main hall. One of the guests – it may very well have been incidental musician Mark Ayres – said something which has stayed with me ever since. What he said was this: "It would be a complete disaster for *Doctor Who* if it was made by the fans."

I remember thinking he was wrong – and smiling at the irony, as Mark himself was a fan. But in the bleak years that followed, He Was Not Alone. Many fans argued that, if the show were to be run by fans, it would disappear up its own Charged Vacuum Emboitment. To misquote *The Two Doctors*; 'Give the fans the keys to the TARDIS and they'll fill the console room with Bandrils' – the idea being that fans would be obsessed with the show's mythos, and would make the programme impenetrable to 'the casual viewer'.



These cynics were proved resoundingly wrong in 2005, when one fan by the name of Russell Davies brought the show back to unprecedented critical and ratings success. The expression 'Never in my wildest dreams' is an over-used cliché, but never in my wildest dreams – not even that one about Tasembeker wearing Peri's costume from *Planet of Fire* – did I imagine that *Doctor Who* could ever be so huge. In retrospect, it seems inevitable, but that's the secret of genius – it makes it look easy.

A *Doctor Who* fan wins a competition. © Rex

It probably was inevitable that *Doctor Who* would return, sooner or later. But what *wasn't* inevitable was that it would be written by a fan. It could so easily have returned under the aegis of someone who quite *liked* the series, but who didn't *love* it – someone who didn't understand what made it tick. You only have to dig out your dusty copy of *Death Comes to Time* to hear what I mean. Others could have brought *Doctor Who* back, but not with the same degree of care, and not with the same industry status that meant the show would, for the first time ever, be allocated a half-way decent budget.

I think the last five years have shown, beyond doubt, that the people who know the show best are the ones who write it best. The best stories are those by long-term, dedicated fans; those fans who grew up with the series, who pored over Target novelisations, who squinted at blurry bootleg videos, who spent the wilderness years following the Doctor's adventures in books, audios and comic strips. Those fans who read **Doctor Who Magazine**.

Why is this the case? Two reasons. Firstly, writers who are unfamiliar with the show have a tendency either to miss the point or re-invent the wheel, because they don't know what's been done, what's worked in the past and what hasn't. Because they haven't read that interview with Dennis Spooner in 1981 where he explains about the dramatic letter 'W'. And secondly, because they're not feeling the love. A love for the show which means they have spent the last thirty-odd years thinking of ideas for *Doctor Who* stories. A love for the show which means they are prepared to stay up til four in the morning, just to do the best possible job on the thirteenth draft. A love for the show which means they are genuinely excited to be writing for *Doctor Who*; an excitement which can't help but come across, loud and clear, in the finished product.

And that, I believe, is why *Doctor Who* has been such a success, because the audience can feel the love. Every episode is saturated with Russell's absolute adoration of the show. It's there in every character, every line. It's *Doctor Who* written by someone who thinks *Doctor Who* is fantastic. By someone who is clearly having the time of his life each time he types the word 'TARDIS'.

A year later, and the role of the Doctor himself would be taken by a long-term fan. Now, I've watched a lot of dodgy videos with fans playing the Doctor, and without doubt, David Tennant is the best. He's also the first not to spend the whole time fingering his lapels.

Joking aside, the reason why David has been such a successful Doctor – the *most* successful – is because of his own love and enthusiasm for the show. Again, he is plainly having the time of his life every time he gets to perform a scene where he has to press all the buttons on the console, every time he runs down a corridor, every time he comes face-to-face with a monster.

So, thanks to David and to Russell, for sharing the love. It's been an incredible ride. You have both been fantastic. You will probably never realise how much joy and excitement you have created. But you did it. You brought back *Doctor Who*. You made it the show the fans always knew it could be.

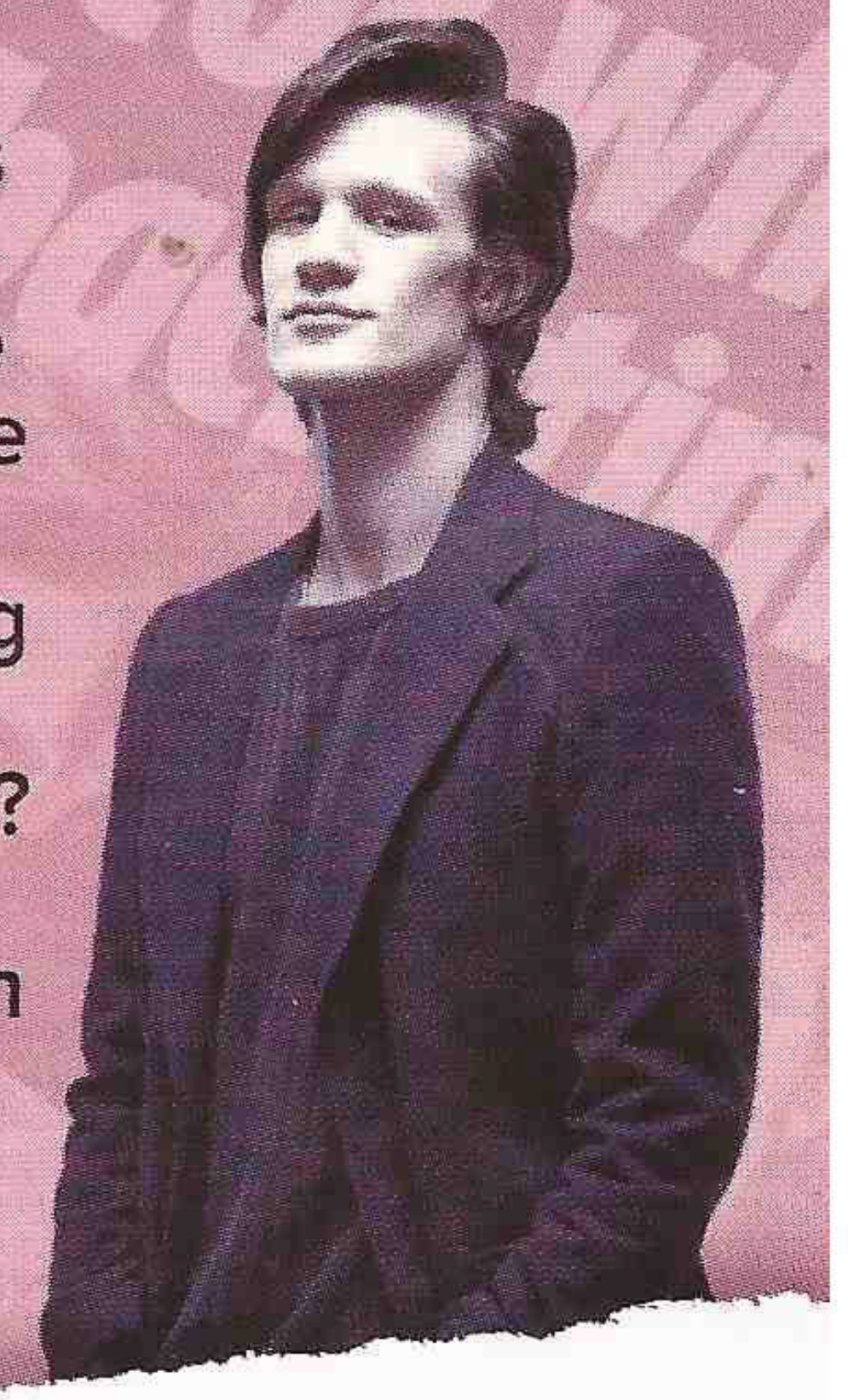
"I've watched a lot of dodgy videos with fans playing the Doctor – and without doubt, David Tennant is the best..."

And you didn't just bring it back – it's now the BBC's top drama show, the one they mention when they're justifying the license fee, an example of television excellence. Without it, the BBC would not have the public support it currently enjoys. And for those working in the industry, *Doctor Who* is also a model of what can be achieved when a writer is put in charge of a show, given a decent budget and allowed to get on with it without executive interference. After all, it single-handedly revived the idea of a 'family show' – without *Doctor Who*, there would be no *Merlin*, no *Robin Hood*, no *Primeval*, as well as no *Torchwood* or *Sarah Jane Adventures*.

And thanks in advance to all the writers, producers, directors and actors of *Doctor Who* yet to come – all those people who have become fans in the last few years, and who are currently reading this issue of **DWM**. Because, it turns out, the fans *are* the ones best-qualified to make *Doctor Who* after all. DWM

2009 REVIEW

Jason Arnopp takes a look back over the last 12 months in the *Doctor Who* universe – the so-called 'gap year' – when nothing much happened at all. *Nothing*, you say? Maybe more than you think, as you can tell from reading the next three pages...



» January

Carole Ann Ford – back as Susan!

At first sight, 2009 looks like a year-long version of *Blink*: scary, on account of being almost entirely Doctor-free. We've spent the last four years gorging ourselves on sumptuous series-long *Doctor Who* banquets and enjoyed a recent slap-up turkey dinner thanks to *The Next Doctor*, but the next 12 months will force us to get by on a mere four Specials! Talk about a great way to ensure that *Doctor Who* remains appreciated and avoids overkill. Sheer strategic genius.

"It's going to be a funny old year," says Russell T Davies, "for *Doctor Who* viewers and *Doctor Who* makers alike. For starters, there's going to be a lot less of the show. But that's all part of the plan! A bit of drought will do us good..."

On closer inspection, the drought isn't so painfully dry. 2009 is, in fact, awash with *Doctor Who* activity – it's just that less of it involves our TV screens. Various other media are set to capitalise on the TV mothership's 'gap year', being allowed more leeway than usual. BBC Books, for instance, is lent more freedom to use returning characters, lining up a 2009 slate of novels involving Sontarans, Judoon, Daleks, Slitheen and many more. **DWM**'s own comic strip plans a 'big saga', which editor Scott Gray notes will run "up until David Tennant leaves and we meet the Eleventh Doctor in 2010!"

The Sarah Jane Adventures is confirmed for its third series!

We have TV spin-off shows to look forward to – a third series of *The Sarah Jane Adventures* has been confirmed, and *Torchwood: Children of Earth* is in the can. Over in Audioville, Big Finish is launching its *Key 2 Time* trilogy starring Peter Davison, and planning hour-long special *An Earthly Child*, which sees Carole Ann Ford returning to her role as Susan, 45 years on! Later this month, *The E-Space Trilogy* vworps its way onto DVD. So there'll be plenty of *Who*-related fun to tide us over.

And hey, spare a thought for the Tenth Doctor. It might be time for we deprived fans to diet, but for him it's time to die. Russell teases us by revealing that not only does he know how Doctor Ten will perish, he's known "for well over a year!" The unspeakable fiend.

On 3 January, the finest edition of *Doctor Who Confidential* yet is screened on BBC One. The *actual* next Doctor is revealed to an audience of seven million!

Matt Smith!

"Who?!"

"Blimey, he's young."

"And alien-looking."

"Will he keep the hair?"

"Thank God he's not Alan Davies." And so on.

» February

K9 is uncaged again!

The Waters of Mars starts shooting this month, although its title won't be officially revealed for a while yet. It's confirmed that K9 will finally be unleashed from Rights Purgatory and take his deservedly prominent role in *The Sarah Jane Adventures* this year. Most exciting of all, though, are the Eleventh Doctor's first words in print. He won't be on our screens for over a year, but Matt Smith naturally gives his first and only published interview to this here magazine. "I hope to have a very open and direct relationship with you and your readers over the next few years," he says, instantly earning fan-love by implying that he already plans to stay for longer than Paul McGann and Christopher Eccleston.

Furthermore, he tells us: "I'm going to try to make my Doctor as varied, and brilliant, and dark, and unpredictable, and happy, and sad, and funny as I can – every facet of me, really – and explore it with bravery and courage."

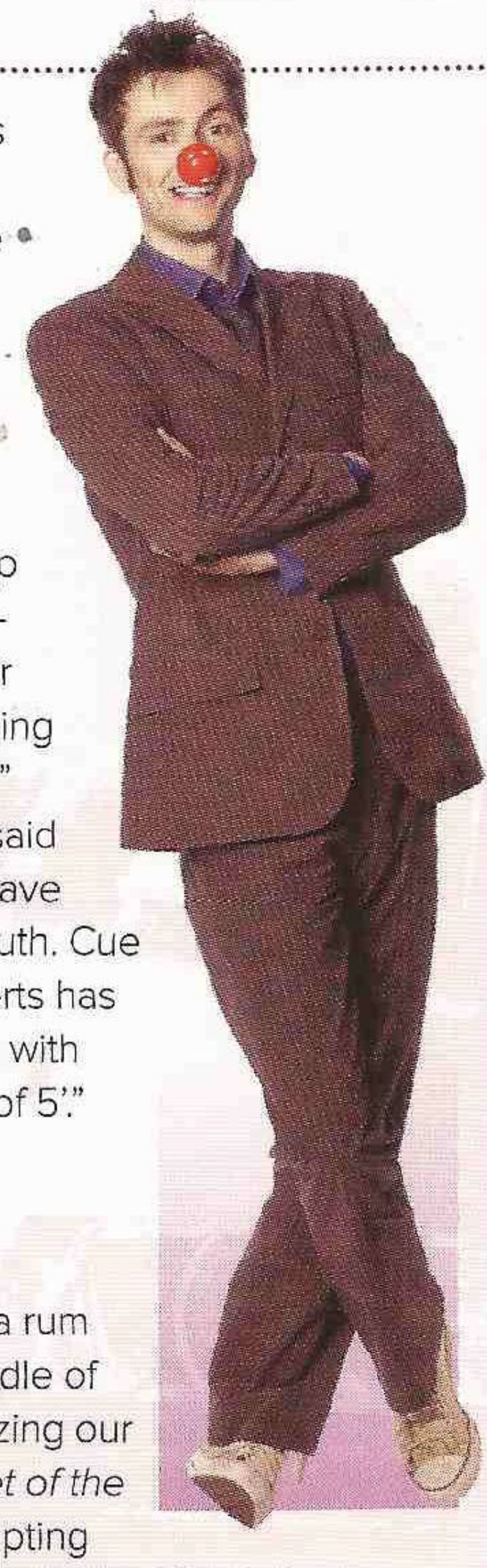
"The Doctor is a very special part," says Steven Moffat, who as incoming showrunner will spend 2009 toiling over his own 2010 series of the show. "It takes a very special actor to play him. As soon as Matt walked through the door, and blew us away with a bold and brand new take on the Time Lord, we knew we had our man. He was just spot-on, right from the beginning. The way he said the lines, the way he looked, his hair... that's him!"

» March

A month dominated by growing anticipation for *Planet of the Dead* and Comic Relief's fund-raising mirth. David Tennant co-hosts the show's first hour ("I'm glad I'm doing the first bit, to get it out the way nice and early," he says of this "terrifying" prospect), which also showcases a mini-episode of *The Sarah Jane Adventures*... featuring Ronnie Corbett, if y'please! Quite remarkable.

The Sixth Doctor story *Attack of the Cybermen* arrives on DVD to outrage all and sundry again with its splendid fist-pulping violence, while news breaks of Big Finish's run of Eighth Doctor and Lucie Miller tales in downloadable instalments featuring Krynoids and Wirrn.

DWM pays tribute to legendary Dalek operator John Scott Martin, who sadly passed away on 6 January; profiles the mid-1960s Dalek series which never happened; and interviews writer Gareth Roberts who, as always, has some splendidly entertaining *Who*-views. "Sometimes I almost wish we could afford to be *less* popular," he says of the current show, "and just slip in a barmy *Warriors' Gate*-style story or a real howler – a *Time-Flight* or something – just for nostalgia's sake." He then adds: "Now I've said that out loud, the words have turned to ashes in my mouth. Cue the internet: 'Gareth Roberts has fulfilled his own prophecy with *Planet of the Dead*. 1 out of 5'."



» April

We *Doctor Who* fans are a rum old bunch. A bumper bundle of new *Who* mayhem is buzzing our way in the shape of *Planet of the Dead*, and we're all attempting to work out whether or not it's the 200th *Doctor Who* TV story.

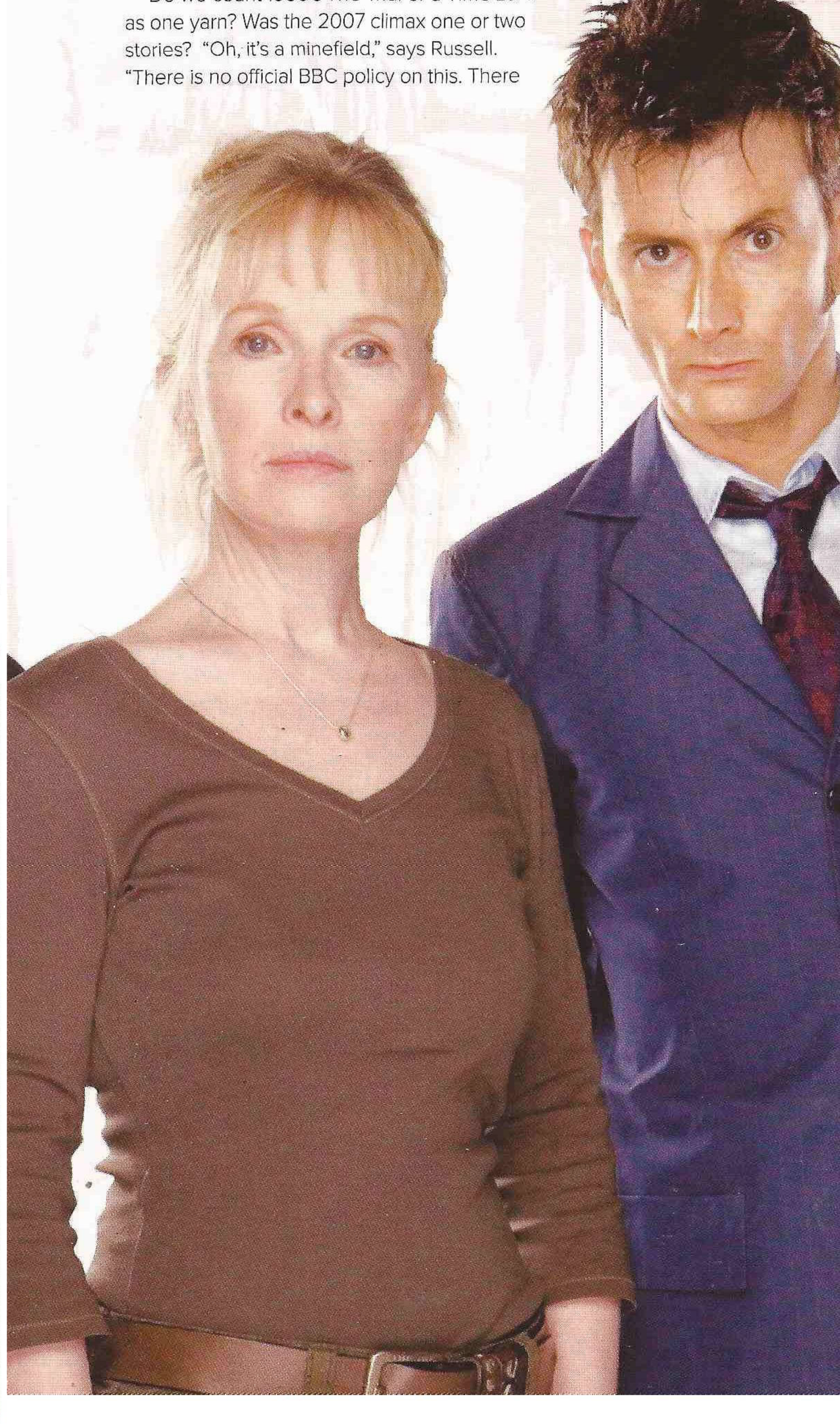
Do we count 1986's *The Trial of a Time Lord* as one yarn? Was the 2007 climax one or two stories? "Oh, it's a minefield," says Russell. "There is no official BBC policy on this. There never will be." Still, *Planet of the Dead*'s double-decker is made a Number 200, just in case. Can't hurt.

On 11 April, the new story is unveiled, in a whirl of airborne carnivores, literal fly-boys and one of the show's all-time finest comic turns from Lee Evans. **DWM** talks to Michelle Ryan about her guest role as Lady Christina De Souza, and ponders whether the character could ever return. "At the moment, I see Christina as someone who's around for this one adventure... but there is absolutely the possibility that she could come back. With the way TV works, I guess it's even an option to come back as a different character."

DWM 407 heaves a bucket of controversy against the wall, as we interview former script editor Christopher H Bidmead. This outspoken gentleman dismisses Rose Tyler's cosmic mobile phone as "bollocks, scientifically"; the Doctor's "Lots of planets have a north" line as "silly"; and David Tennant as "an actor who hasn't got a character to play." Well! That's a nice how-do-you-do.

Torchwood returns, hooray! And Ianto Jones dies, oh no! Shame.

» May



Top-notch news: the Noble-Motts will return to *Doctor Who* for the Tenth Doctor's finale. Tate! Cribbins! King! "I can remember being at the Series Four wrap party," hoots Russell, "telling Catherine exactly what I wanted to do, and even that far ahead, she said she'd do anything to keep her schedule clear for us. Which is very much appreciated, because she's so in demand. But you might be wondering, how can Donna return, since her mind will burn up if ever she remembers anything of her life with the Doctor? Well, you'll just have to wait until Christmas to find out!" Argh!

It's confirmed that lovely producer Tracie Simpson will retain her role for Matt Smith's first series of *Doctor Who* – and Peter Bennett also comes on board to produce. Meanwhile, *Ashes To Ashes* producer Beth Willis joins the team as exec producer alongside Lords Moffat and Wenger. And June Whitfield joins the Christmas Specials cast!

DOCTOR·WHO
SPECIAL·MAGAZINE·EDITION
200
GOLDEN
MOMENTS

Beyond the current TV phenomenon, **DWM** celebrates our favourite show's alleged 200th tale with a special edition, in the shape of *200 Golden Moments*. The first episode of *Torchwood: Children of Earth* is shown to a bunch of appreciative journos in London, while 1970s gem *The Deadly Assassin* hits shelves on shiny new DVD. The latter development means we can now hear Peter Pratt's Master spitting the line "You craven-hearted, spineless poltroon!" in clearer sound quality than ever before. A triumph.

On 29 May, it's announced that Karen Gillan, who played a soothsayer in *The Fires of Pompeii*, has been cast as the Eleventh Doctor's companion. We approve! This busy month also sees us interviewing outgoing exec producer Julie Gardner, on her last day at BBC Wales. "I think that the real end for me," she reflects, "was the day on set when the Tenth Doctor realises he's going to die – when it's obvious and unavoidable – and obviously I can't say any more than that! But as you'd expect, it's a very big scene, a very emotional scene." We instantly weep at these words, just to get some practice in.

» June

"The last. The last! That's all I keep hearing," says Russell in his *Production Notes* column. "People keep on saying to me, it's the last this, the last that, the last time you'll ever-do-whatever... It's not the last of anything. This show will go on and on and on, and every few years or so, there'll be a brand new first."

Look out, here's a first right now: the Doctor's going to appear on *The Sarah Jane Adventures*! Furthermore, Georgia Moffett, *aka* the Doctor's daughter, will voice a new animated *Doctor Who* series *called Dreamland*, which Russell refers to as 'Special Project 2' following ▸

2009 REVIEW

◂ the Doctor/Sarah Jane crossover story... then tantalisingly hints at a 'Special Project 3'. Another project is afoot Down Under, as former *Doctor Who* writer Bob Baker prepares to launch his long-awaited spin-off series *K9*, which he dreamed up alongside Paul Mark Tams.

Jonathan Morris launches his own special mission in these very pages, by taking an exhaustive look at the Doctor's regenerative powers. 'The process of regeneration has numerous physical and psychological side-effects,' he pondered. 'Euphoria, paranoia, manic depression, self-pity, arrogance, violence, black-outs... and that's just the first episode of *The Twin Dilemma*.'

The Doctor arrives on the Ood Sphere as *The End of Time* begins. What happens next? Find out in just a few days from now...

» July

Karen Gillan chats to DWM, and then starts her journey as Amy Pond.

Behold: the Eleventh Doctor's uniform. Bow-tie, tweed jacket, rolled-up trousers, boots. As on-set pictures leak out to the tabloids, **DWM** bags yet another exclusive in the shape of an interview with Karen Gillan (who, as Amy Pond, sports a baggy jumper and trainers, clothes fans). "I'm sure my fitness is going to be put to the test – lots of running around!" she tells us. "I just hope that everybody likes what Matt and I do. I'm going to join a long line of excellent companions and the bar has been set pretty high."

It's confirmed that The Mill will continue to provide their fantastic effects for *Doctor Who*. Lucky fans at the San Diego Comic Con are treated to a trailer for the Christmas Specials. Oh yes, there is whooping. *Torchwood* fans are, however, simultaneously whooping and wailing as *Children of Earth*'s events bravely assail an unsuspecting BBC One.

» August

"Matt Smith didn't look at all alien to me," booms Tom Baker, speaking to **DWM** for the first time in ages, in celebration of signing on for BBC Audio drama *Hornets' Nest* – his first piece of work as the Fourth Doctor in an incredible 28 years. "The fans will decide, but I do sincerely hope Mr Smith is a great success. Looking back nobody ever failed in the part."

The Black Guardian Trilogy – Mawdryn Undead, *Terminus* and *Enlightenment* – materialises in a splendid DVD box-set, including a 'special edition' of the latter serial by director Fiona Cumming, with new CGI effects. And is it true that John Leeson will be providing the voice of K9 for the upcoming Australian-made series? Affirmative!

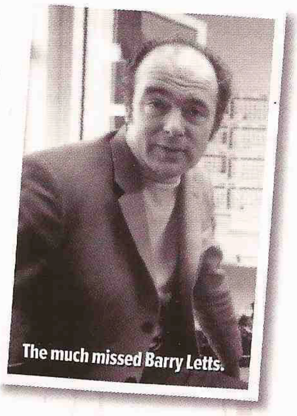
» September

Hold on a goddamn second – the Master's dead, right? Surely that hand stealing his ring at the end of *Last of the Time Lords* merely belonged to an opportunist thief? Apparently not: it's announced that John Simm will reprise his role as the Doctor's eternal nemesis for the Christmas Specials – and Alexandra Moen also returns as his not-so-loving wife Lucy. Blimey, former Bond star Timothy Dalton has a role too. The bumper finale is named *The End of Tennant*... oh, sorry, *The End of Time*.

The Second Doctor's companion Jamie McCrimmon, *aka* Frazer Hines in real-life, is set to join the Sixth Doctor for a run of six Big Finish audios. And there's more from Tom Baker, as **DWM** joins the great man for a stroll around his woodland acres. Booze, death, drugs and dogs are frankly discussed, along with *Hornets' Nest* – the first instalment, *The Stuff of Nightmares*, hits CD this very month.

1984's TV tale *The Twin Dilemma* finally arrives on DVD...

» October



The much missed Barry Letts.

... and is voted by **DWM** readers as the 200th most popular *Doctor Who* story ever, out of 200. Oh, the timing. **DWM** hits the stands with four different, resplendent covers and reveals *The Caves of Androzani* sitting pretty in the Number One spot. Director Graeme Harper proudly holding up his award is surely one of the finest photographs in **DWM** this year. We love Graeme.

October is inevitably overshadowed by the very sad passing of Barry Letts – both a splendidly nice man and one of Doctor's all-time greatest producers. **DWM** begins work on an appropriate tribute to Barry, set for publication in the magazine on 7 January.

» November

It's a double-dose of David Tennant this month, as he dashes into a country mansion to stop Sarah Jane getting married, then walks blithely into altogether grimmer territory on Mars. *The Wedding of Sarah Jane Smith* and *The Waters of Mars* really are the ultimate tribute to David's range, as we sail from that glorious *Sarah Jane Adventures* two-parter to one of the most jaw-dropping explorations of the Doctor's dark potential since... well, since he attempted to strangle one of his companions in the TARDIS. A real reminder, too, as your average viewer girds their loins for the Tenth Doctor's four-knock prophecy to be fulfilled, that we only have so much of Russell T Davies (who wrote *The Waters of Mars* with Phil Ford) left to savour. The creative tornado which made this whole revival happen has long since swirled off to Los Angeles. Oi, California: give our national treasure back!

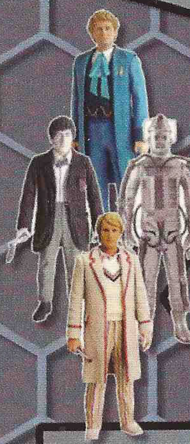
» December

Lord only knows, frankly, since this is being written in November. Deadlines, eh? So we can only paraphrase a line from *The Impossible Planet*, with all the knowing invitation of doom which it entails: "This is going to be the best Christmas the Tenth Doctor ever had!" We. Can't. Wait... DWM

Who Shop 39, Barking Road,
Upton Park, London E6 1PY.
Call us on +44 (0)20-8471 2356
Email: info@thewhoshop.co.uk

Monday - Saturday
9:30am - 5:30pm
www.thewhoshop.com
Online 24/7

THE WHO SHOP



OFFER
Dapol
Buy 1
Get 1 Free

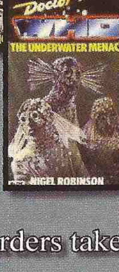
Rare Import
10" Adipose
Rare Import

THE WHO SHOP HAS REGENERATED........
JUST LIKE THE TARDIS OUR NEW SHOP IS BIGGER ON THE INSIDE

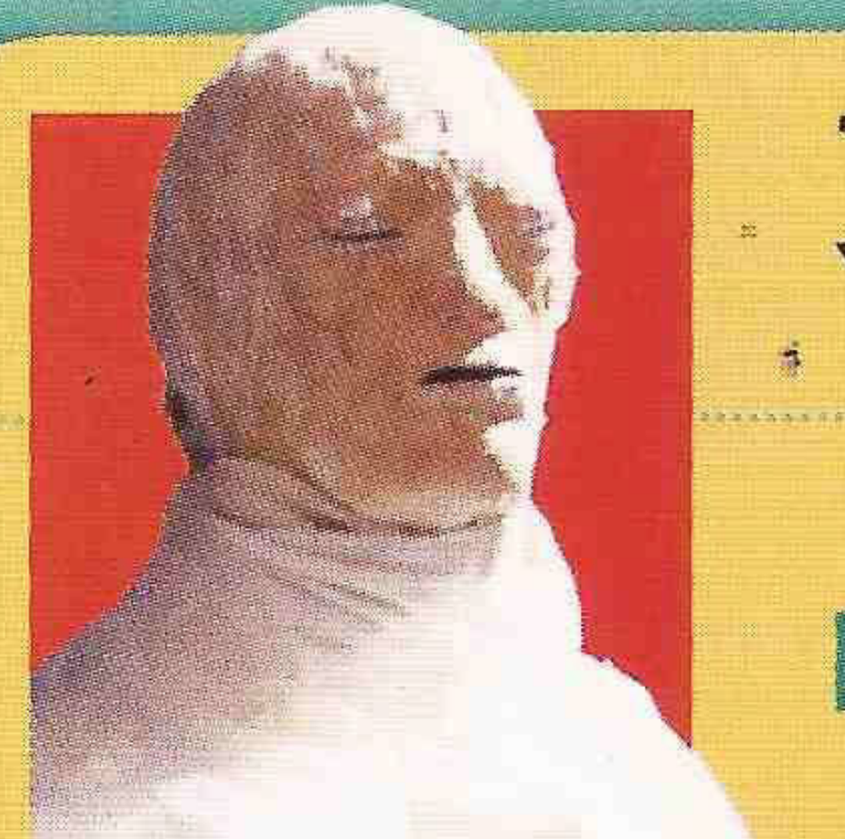
SIGNINGS

CELEBRATE 2010 with The Who Shop new year signing event on Saturday 2nd January.
Classic Doctor Who and New Series actor **David Troughton**
(s.w.c) King Peladon - 'Curse of Peladon' and Professor Hobbes in 'Midnight'.
Also **Katy Manning** - (s.w.c) Jo Grant.
Peter Miles from the Pertwee era.
From the Hartnell era **Jeremy Young** - 'An Unearthly Child'.
More guests will be announced, so call the shop for details.
This bumper signing event will be from 12-3pm.

To celebrate the New Year
We will be selling Remote control 12" Movie Daleks
For £29.99 (£49.99 r.r.p) or 2 for £50.00.
Buy all four colours
Receive an IR Dalek for free (whilst stocks last).



Pre orders taken for signed DVD's- 'Peladon Tales' and 'Masque of Mandragora'.
Titles missing from your book collection?
Wheel in Space - Underwater Menace we have lots of out of print Target and Hard-backed books.
Come see our treasure trove of **Doctor Who** props & costumes from stage and T.V on display in our mini museum with items from Hartnell to Ecclestone and even more added since our 21st November opening.
We also have pieces from **Angel**, **Red Dwarf** and the film, **Alien**.
With Cuddly **Adipose**, **10th Doctor** and **Captain Jack** replica coats.
Limited edition prints and props and an extensive range of autographs.
The Who Shop has the perfect Christmas present for yourself or your **'Who'** Fan.



The Eleventh Doctor is almost here! As we await his arrival on New Year's Day, **The Watcher** completes his guide to the Doctor's lives...

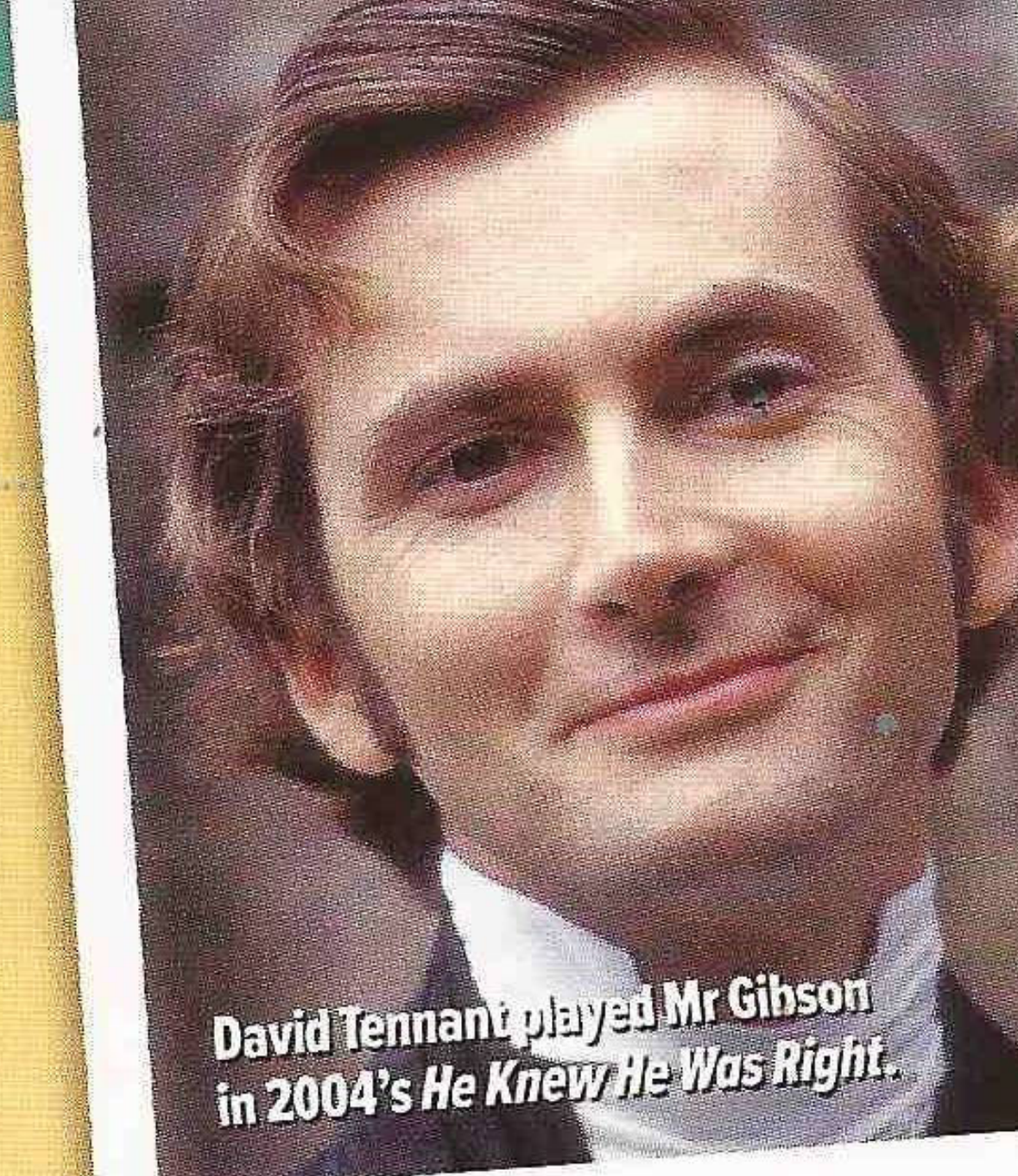
The Watcher's Guide to... The TENTH DOCTOR

(2005-2010)

Over the last few issues of **DWM** we've been on quite a journey. Ten months, ten Doctors: and, as you read this, the countdown to number eleven is entering its final phase. But we still have one more Doctor to celebrate – and what a Doctor. With hindsight it's easy to forget the element of uncertainty that preceded the return of *Doctor Who* in 2005. There was no prior guarantee that the show would succeed – but of course it did, and on a scale that nobody could possibly have anticipated. With Christopher Eccleston's decision to move on after just one season, the BBC's new hit faced an immediate challenge: could the momentum of such a runaway success be maintained with a new man at helm? The Tenth Doctor needed to be more than just good. He was going to have to be superb...

> *"I'm finding my own way. I usually do."*
>
> **(Gridlock)**

The Tenth Doctor is a colourful, complex and contradictory figure: perhaps the most relaxed and easily sociable of all the Doctors, he's at his happiest when surrounded by his ever-expanding coterie of loyal friends. And yet at the same time he's more acutely aware than ever of his own sense of disconnection from them: the Tenth Doctor's days are weighted by the knowledge that he is destined to remain a lonely wanderer, helplessly outlasting the humans he holds so dear. Not for him a fragile, yearned-for human life shared with Rose Tyler, Madame de Pompadour or Joan Redfern. But the Tenth Doctor is no mope. His appetite for adventure is undiminished, and his sense of fun is as bright and boyish as ever: this is a Time Lord who works hard, plays hard, and even parties hard. But woe betide any evildoer who underestimates him: time and again the Tenth Doctor's opponents fail to see through the façade of tomfoolery to the avenging angel beneath. "No second chances," he observes after dispatching the duplicitous Sycorax. "I'm that sort of a man."



David Tennant played Mr Gibson in 2004's *He Knew He Was Right.*

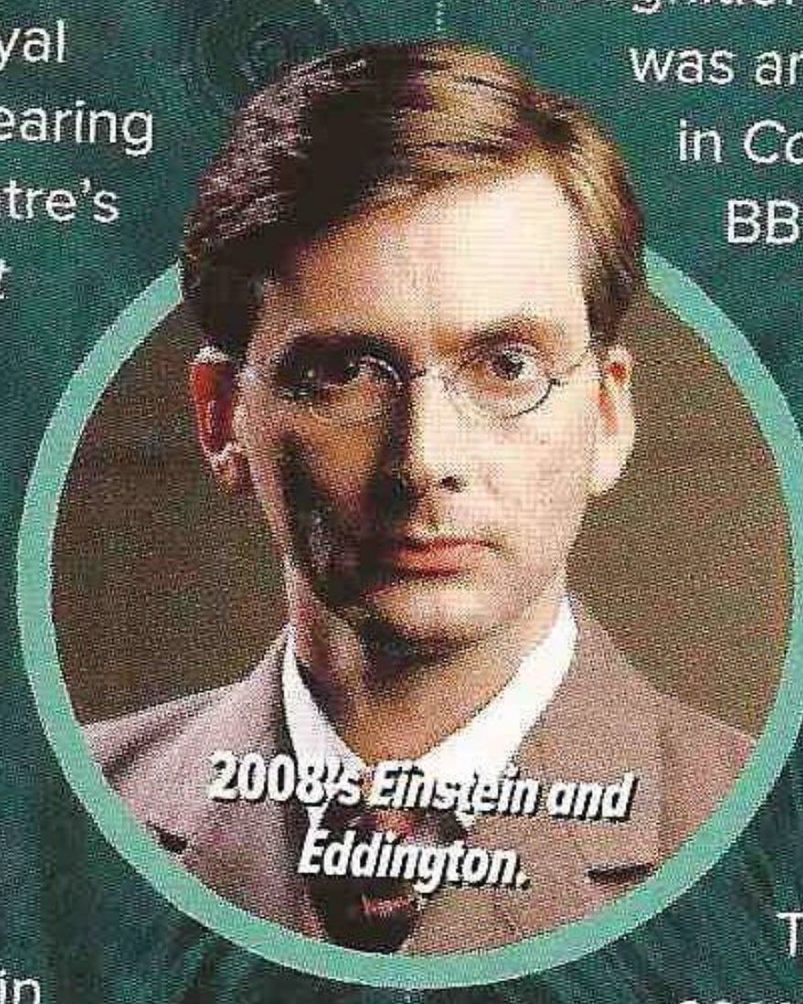
David Tennant (1971-)

Born in Bathgate, West Lothian on 18 April 1971 (the day after Episode Two of *Colony in Space*, fact-seekers), David McDonald became a fan of *Doctor Who* at an early age: the story goes that he was only three years old when his love of the series prompted him to declare to his parents that he wanted to become an actor. He realised the ambition while still in his teens, making his screen début in a 1988 episode of ITV's *Dramarama*. As the actors' union Equity already had a David McDonald among its members, the newcomer chose a stage name inspired by the Pet Shop Boys' singer Neil Tennant.

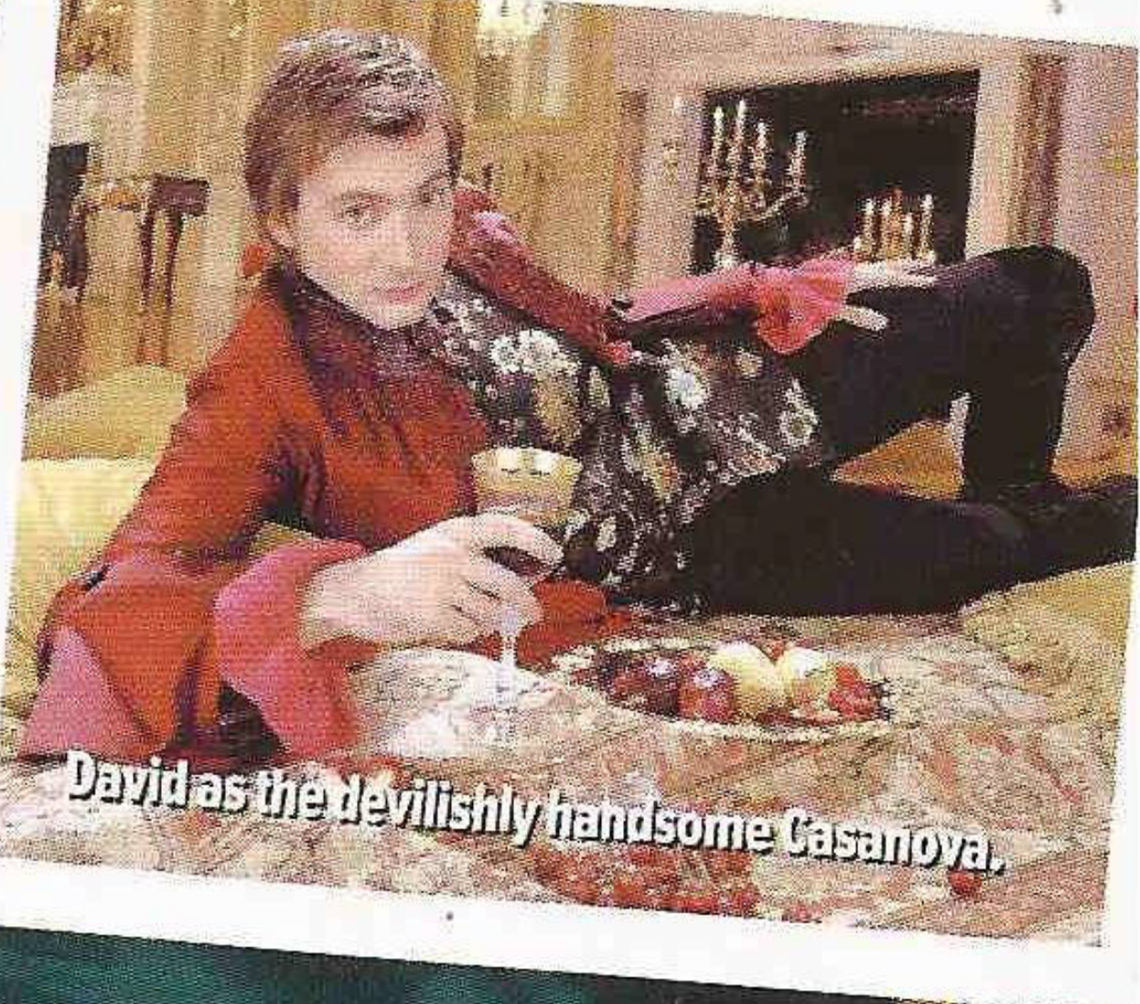
After training at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Tennant landed early roles in *Rab C Nesbitt* and *The Tales of Para Handy*, while on stage he worked at Dundee Rep and Edinburgh's Royal Lyceum before appearing in the National Theatre's 1995 revival of *What the Butler Saw*. The following year saw his first stint with the Royal Shakespeare Company, and also his big-screen début as a tipsy undergraduate in *Jude*, starring one Christopher Eccleston in the title role.

Among the many engagements that followed, 2001 found Tennant notching up his first *Doctor Who* credit with Big Finish Productions, playing Feldwebel Kurtz in the Seventh Doctor's audio adventure *Colditz*. Further television exposure came his way in *Foyle's War*, *He Knew He Was Right* and *Blackpool*, but in terms of public recognition his breakthrough gig was arguably the title role in *Casanova*, a three-part BBC drama written by Russell T Davies and screened just a couple of weeks before *Doctor Who*'s comeback in March 2005. By the time *Casanova* was on the air, Tennant had already accepted the role that was to catapult him to A-list stardom...

Amid his hectic *Doctor Who* schedule, Tennant has found time to appear in a string of other productions including *Secret Smile*, *The Romantics*, *Einstein and Eddington* and *Glorious 39*, while in 2008 he returned to the RSC for an acclaimed performance in the title role of *Hamlet*. A tireless ambassador for *Doctor Who*, he has graced countless chat shows and charity gigs, and has gamely sent himself up in everything from *The Friday Night Project* to *Extras*. Forthcoming engagements include lead roles in the NBC pilot *Rex is Not Your Lawyer* and the John Landis film *Burke and Hare*, and in the USA he's now hosting the drama anthology strand *Masterpiece Contemporary*, sealing his status as one of British acting's most sought-after exports. David Tennant: the busiest man in showbiz!



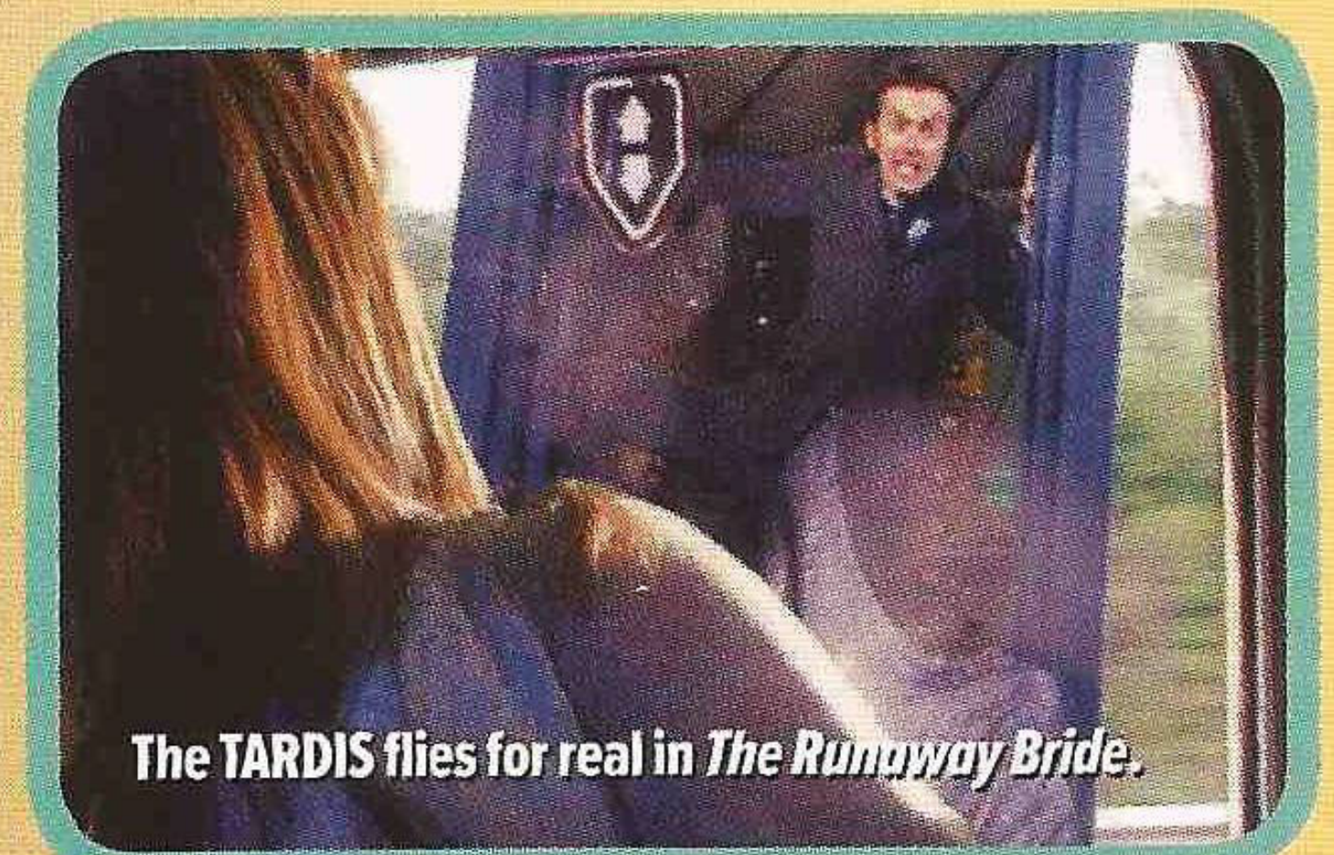
2008's *Einstein and Eddington.*



David as the devilishly handsome Casanova.

Notable FIRSTS

As well as introducing audiences to the Tenth Doctor, *The Christmas Invasion* enjoys the distinction of being the first ever *Doctor Who* episode to make its début on a Sunday. The idea of a Christmas episode isn't quite a first – back in 1965 the seventh episode of *The Daleks' Master Plan* was transmitted on 25 December, temporarily ditching the Daleks in favour of a jolly seasonal runaround – but it's the Tenth Doctor's era which firmly establishes the tradition of a Christmas Day Special.



The TARDIS flies for real in *The Runaway Bride.*

- The TARDIS has some new tricks up her sleeve: in earlier stories like *Warriors' Gate* and *Time-Flight* we see the ship in 'hover mode', while *Time and the Rani* begins with the police box crashlanding as it does in *The Christmas Invasion*, but *The Runaway Bride* offers the first genuine instance of the Doctor actually 'flying' the TARDIS through the air. The same episode sees the ship make a vertical take-off, rocket fashion – something arguably implied by the very first dematerialisation sequence back in 1963, but never seen on screen until now.

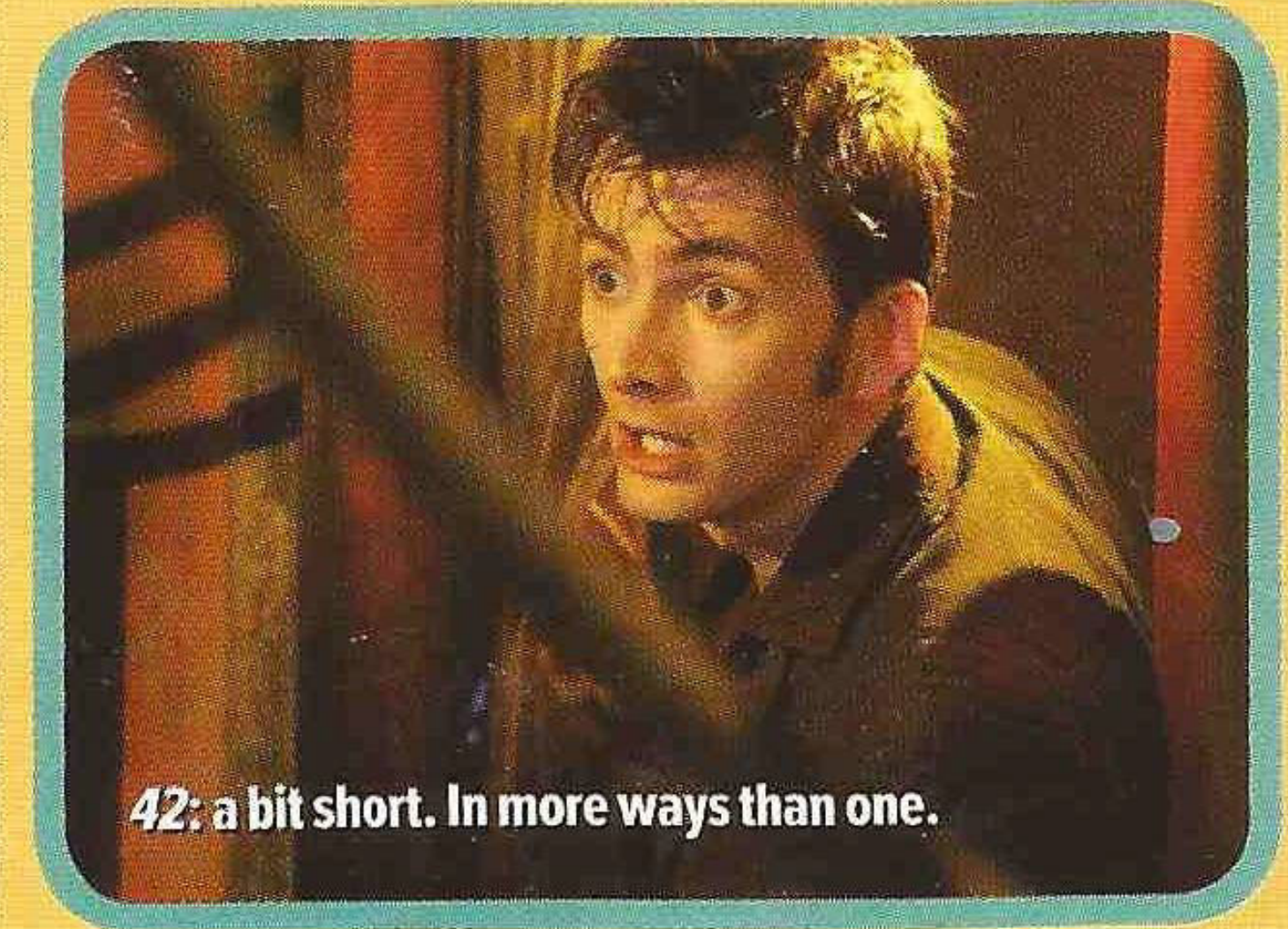
- Alongside rematches with classic foes like the Cybermen, the Sontarans, the Macra, the Master and Davros, the Tenth Doctor's era sees some colourful new additions to the roster of recurring aliens in the form of the Ood, the Judoon and the cat people of New Earth; and, following numerous mentions as far back as *Rose*, the Shadow Proclamation finally shows up in *The Stolen Earth*.
In pole position as ever are the Daleks, bursting with firsts of their own: *The Stolen Earth* unveils a new Supreme Dalek, resplendent in red and gold livery, while *Army of Ghosts/Doomsday* introduces us to the Cult of Skaro, a gang of four super-Daleks who are the first in the show's history to have individual names (no, the Second Doctor's nicknames in *The Evil of the Daleks* don't count). And of course, the same story sees the long-awaited Dalek/Cyberman conflict which had fuelled many a fannish fantasy in days of yore. Epic stuff.

A Dalek with a name!

- Talking of epic stuff, just take a look at the sidebars towards the end of this feature. After a certain amount of coming and going by Rose's family during the previous season, the Tenth Doctor's era completely dismantles *Doctor Who*'s traditional arrive-and-depart approach to its regular characters. As well as various members of the Tyler, Jones and Noble households dropping in and out willy-nilly, we have a new revolving-door policy regarding companions. Setting aside celebratory shindigs *The Five Doctors* and *The Two Doctors*, and Harry Sullivan's brief reappearance in *The Android Invasion*, the Tennant era marks the first full-on instances of former companions returning to the Doctor's life after their original 'departures': first we have Sarah Jane Smith's reappearance in *School Reunion*, and later Martha's and Rose's respective comebacks. In between, Donna Noble becomes the first character to make a seemingly one-off appearance before returning to become a full-time companion. Well, unless you really insist on counting Nyssa.

- Last month we mentioned some of the celebrity cameos peppering the Tenth Doctor's adventures, but spare a particular thought for real-life BBC Wales newsreader Jason Mohammad who, from *The Christmas Invasion* onwards, appears in several episodes of both *Doctor Who* and *The Sarah Jane Adventures*: although credited simply as 'Newsreader', he's essentially playing himself, and is thus the first real person to become a recurring *Doctor Who* character!

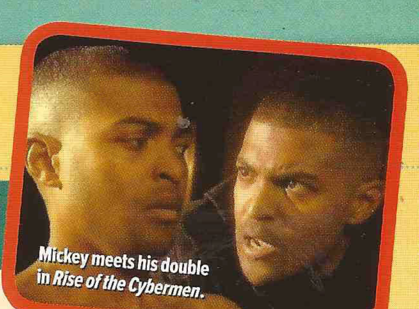
- A handful of earlier stories get pretty close, but the Tenth Doctor's adventure *42* is the first which explicitly unfolds in 'real time' – and thus, in terms of the time-span experienced by the characters, it's the 'shortest' *Doctor Who* story ever. As if that weren't enough, it also has the shortest title of any story. By way of balance, the 'One Year Later' caption in *Last of the Time Lords* ensures that the same season's three-part finale is, in terms of fictional time elapsed, the longest *Doctor Who* story by a mile.



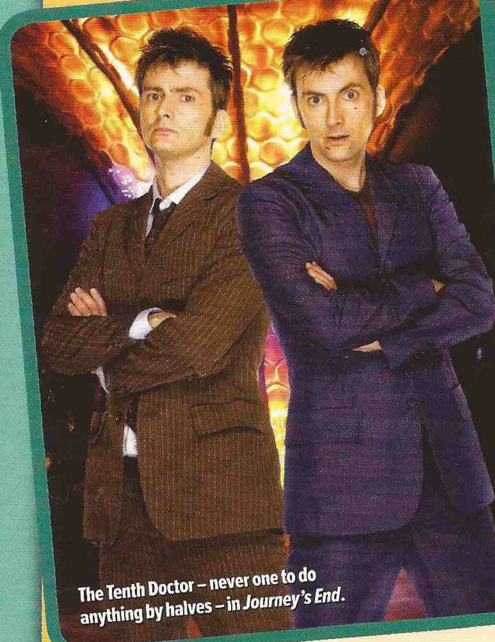
42: a bit short. In more ways than one.

The Watcher's Guide to...

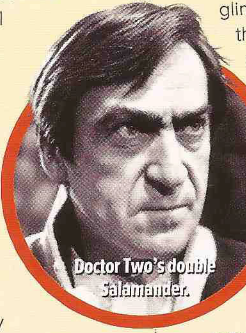
The TENTH DOCTOR


Mickey meets his double in *Rise of the Cybermen*.

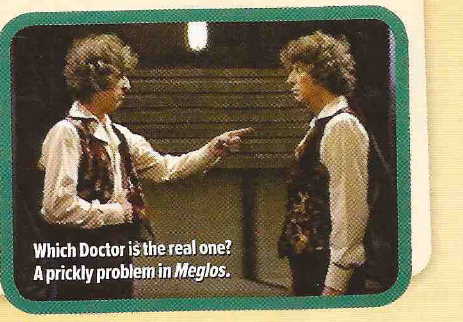
Double Trouble!


The Tenth Doctor – never one to do anything by halves – in *Journey's End*.

It's one of the unwritten rules of every fantasy franchise that sooner or later there'll be a 'parallel universe' story. Earlier eras of *Doctor Who* dabble in different dimensions and dodgy doubles with resounding results, most notably in the 1970 serial *Inferno*, which sees the Third Doctor catapulted sideways into a nightmarish totalitarian Earth quaking beneath a fascist dictatorship, complete with nasty jackbooted versions of the Brigadier, Sergeant Benton and Liz Shaw. A few years later, *Pyramids of Mars* has the Fourth Doctor briefly but unforgettably whisking Sarah Jane from 1911 to a parallel present day – a lifeless, blasted wilderness – to demonstrate why he can't just buzz off in the TARDIS during historical adventures. Elsewhere there are doubles galore: the First Doctor is a dead ringer for the Abbot of Amboise in *The Massacre of St Bartholomew's Eve*, while the Second meets his spitting image in *The Enemy of the World*'s megalomaniac Salamander. The Fourth is impersonated by the alien shape-shifter Meglos, while the Fifth's body-print is borrowed by the renegade Omega. Robot replicas and metamorphic monsters rear their heads in stories like *The Chase*, *The Claws of Axos*, *Terror of the Zygons*, *The Android Invasion*, *The Androids of Tara* and *The Caves of Androzani*, while Nyssa meets her real-life lookalike in *Black Orchid*. But when it comes to double trouble and alternative realities, the Tenth Doctor's era plunges headlong into the genre as never before. *Rise of the Cybermen/The Age of Steel* introduces us to a parallel Earth where the Tyler family's fortunes are altogether different, and where Rose herself will later end up, ultimately to be paired off with a human replica of the Doctor in *Journey's End*.

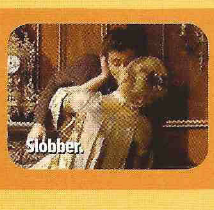

Doctor Two's double Salamander.

Elsewhere the parallel dimension riff is revisited in *Human Nature/The Family of Blood*, in which we're given a heartbreaking glimpse of an alternative human life that the Doctor can never experience, and again in *Last of the Time Lords*, in which the cataclysmic events of the Master's reign of terror are rewound into nonexistence by the Paradox Machine. But perhaps the most striking 'parallel universe' story of all is *Turn Left*, a truly remarkable 'what if' of an episode in which Donna Noble experiences the abject horror into which the human race might have been plunged had she not been at the Doctor's side during their first encounter. Quite simply, one of the best episodes of anything ever.


Which Doctor is the real one? A prickly problem in *Meglos*.

Cliché-Busting: The 'romantic' Doctor?

Slurp.


Slobber.

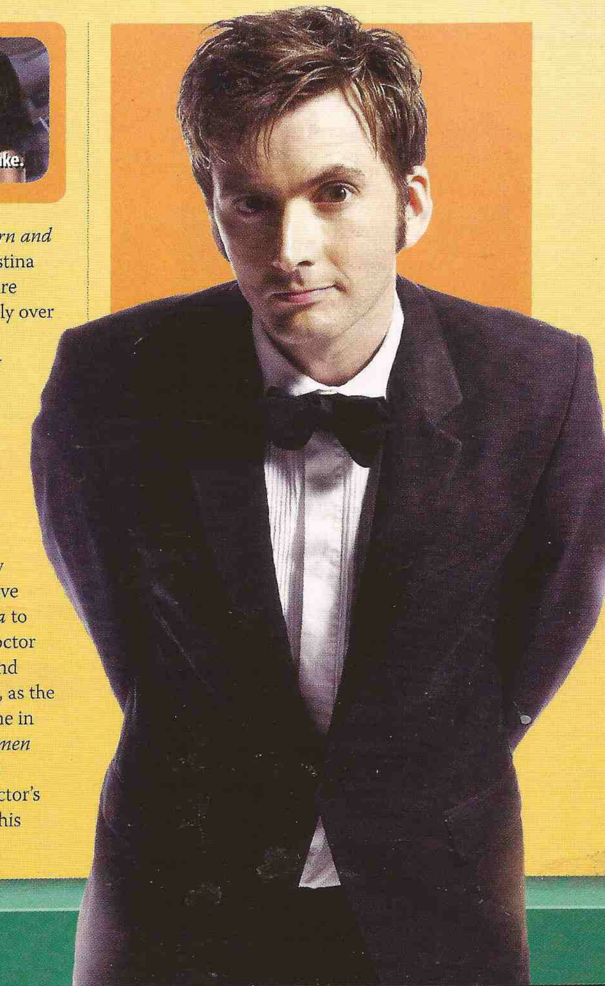
Schlupp.

Oh for goodness' sake.

If there's one thing the Tenth Doctor can offer in endless supply, it's lurve. He's the Barry White of time and space. He's Dr Sexy. According to some pointless sums I've just done, he gets involved in more snogging than all nine of his predecessors put together. You want the stats? Okay, you asked for it. The Second Doctor is kissed by Madeleine Issigri in *The Space Pirates*, and gives Zoe a farewell canoodle in *The War Games*. The Third Doctor osculates Jo in *Planet of the Daleks* (but not, as is often supposed, in *The Green Death*), while the Fourth gives K9 the kiss of life in *The Horns of Nimon* (does that count?). The Fifth exchanges a chaste peck with Nyssa in *Terminus*, and the Sixth cops off with Anita in *The Two Doctors*. The Eighth goes a couple of rounds of tonsil-tennis with Grace Holloway, while the Ninth has a smooch with both Rose Tyler and Captain Jack in *The Parting of the Ways*. Now, even including K9, I make that just nine snogs in 42 years. As opposed to...

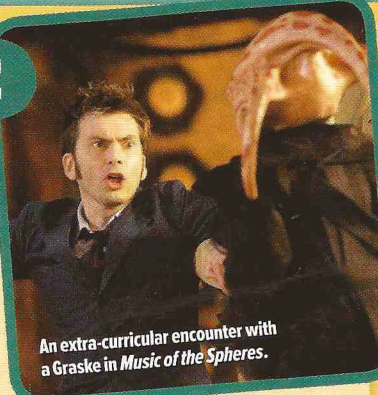
Cassandra/Rose in *New Earth*. Madame de Pompadour in *The Girl in the Fireplace*. Rose in *The Satan Pit*. Jackie in *Army of Ghosts*. Martha in *Smith and Jones*. Joan in *The Family of Blood*. Astrid in *Voyage of the Damned*. Donna in *The Unicorn and the Wasp*. Rose again in *Journey's End*. Christina in *Planet of the Dead*. Oh, that'll do. There are probably more, but we're already comfortably over the finish line.

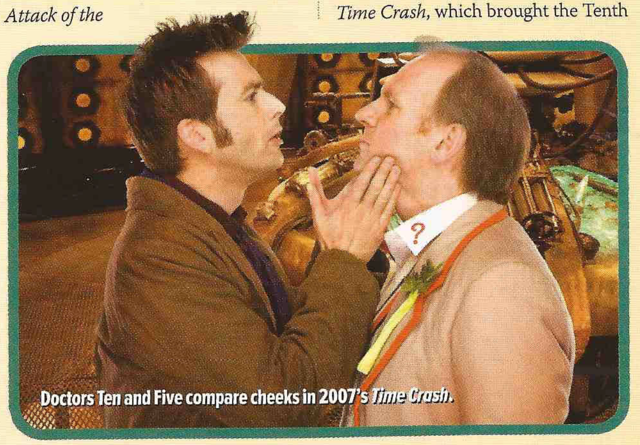
And yet, as Heaven 17 so perspicaciously observed, even with all that kissing, there's something missing. The briefest glance through the previous paragraph will confirm that very few of the Tenth Doctor's multifarious smackers have anything to do with a serious romantic attachment. Rose, Reinette and Joan; that's about it. Yes, the Tenth Doctor is a soppy old dear, but he's by no means unique in that. Earlier Doctors have had their dalliances too, from Todd in *Kinda* to Romana in *State of Decay*. Even the First Doctor enjoyed a brief engagement in *The Aztecs*, and before that he was a grandfather – and thus, as the Tenth Doctor makes explicit for the first time in *Fear Her*, a father. In *The Tomb of the Cybermen* the Second Doctor speaks fondly of a whole family. So we can safely assume that the Doctor's romantic entanglements began long before his Tenth incarnation...



Tennant's Extras!

When considering the Seventh Doctor's adventures a few issues ago, we touched on the question of canonicity regarding such curiosities as BBC Schools programmes, *Jim'll Fix It* adventures and *Children in Need* skits, and we came to the rather ruthless conclusion that we can't really let any of them 'count', for fear of opening the floodgates on a veritable tsunami of spoofs and spin-offs. That said, the Tenth Doctor's era is accompanied by such a whirling blizzard of extra bits, animated episodes, multi-platform add-ons and general all-round spin-offery, that we simply can't let it pass without mention. First up, of course, was a brief but beautiful glimpse of the new Doctor's post-regenerative encounter with Rose in 2005's *Children in Need* sketch. Later the same year came *Attack of the Graske*, an interactive Red Button adventure which allowed viewers to affect the outcome with their TV remote controls. Then there were the so-called 'Tardisodes', a series of 13 specially-shot teasers available online and via mobile phone, which trailed each episode of the 2006 series with snippets of back-story unseen in the televised tales. Then there was *Totally Doctor Who*, a children's magazine show which accompanied the 2006 and 2007 seasons during the weekday afternoon CBBC strand. The second run of *Totally* incorporated 2007's animated serial *The Infinite Quest*, starring the voices of David Tennant and Freema Agyeman: originally transmitted in three-minute segments, *The Infinite Quest* was later compiled into a 45-minute episode for repeat and DVD release. Next up was 2007's *Children in Need* Special *Time Crash*, which brought the Tenth Doctor face to face with his Fifth incarnation, while 2008 rang with *Music of the Spheres*, a seven-minute episode screened at the *Doctor Who* Prom concert at the Royal Albert Hall, once again pitting the Doctor against the pesky extra-curricular Graske. And bringing us right up to date, November 2009 heralded the seven-part animated adventure *Dreamland*.


An extra-curricular encounter with a Graske in *Music of the Spheres*.

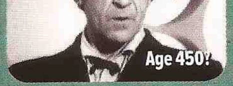

Doctors Ten and Five compare cheeks in 2007's *Time Crash*.

But if we're talking about spin-offs, let's not forget the grandest of them all: unveiled in 2006 and 2007 respectively, *Torchwood* and *The Sarah Jane Adventures* have become huge successes in their own right, collectively broadening the *Doctor Who* universe and happily cross-pollinating plotlines, characters and monsters. When Luke Smith, Gwen Cooper and Ianto Jones appeared in *The Stolen Earth*, they became the first *Doctor Who* characters to have been born in another TV show entirely – and by the same token, the Tenth Doctor's guest role in *The Wedding of Sarah Jane Smith* is the first unarguably canonical appearance of the Doctor in a completely different drama series.

Doc of Ages...

There's nothing we *Doctor Who* fans enjoy more than a bit of number-crunching, so eyes down for a full house as we delve into the vexed question of our hero's age. For an alien time-traveller it goes without saying that such measurements are relative, and whenever the Doctor reveals his age there's a tacit assumption that he's doing the maths for us, and translating Gallifreyan years – however long *they* might be – into Earth ones. That's certainly the case in *The Tomb of the Cybermen*, which is the earliest story to offer us anything like a straight answer when the Second Doctor declares to his astonished companions that he is "in Earth terms ... about 450 years old." The Third Doctor tells Liz Shaw in *Doctor Who and the Silurians* that he has lived for "several thousand years," a claim he appears to be on the point of repeating in *The Mind of Evil*. Things start getting tricky in *Pyramids of Mars*, when the Fourth Doctor reckons his age at "something like 750 years," before finessing this to a more exact 749 in *The Brain of Morbius*, while two years later in *The Ribos Operation* he's 759. The Fifth Doctor remains silent on the matter, but by the time of *Revelation of the Daleks* the Sixth is claiming to be 900 years old, while the Seventh is apparently 953 in *Time and the Rani*. Further confusion rears its head as the Ninth Doctor reverts to a tidy 900 in *Aliens of London*, and hereafter a degree of 'real time' seems to kick in, as the Tenth Doctor reveals himself to be 903 in *Voyage of the Damned*, transmitted three years later.

Taken as a whole, it's all rather baffling. The Fourth Doctor's Time Lady companion Romana isn't much help: in her début story she's "nearly 140," but by *City of Death* she's shaved a few years off, claiming to be 125. Perhaps there's something fundamental that we haven't yet grasped about the miracle of regeneration: maybe different incarnations of the same Time Lord somehow attain their own discrete ages which, like interest rates and mortgage repayments, can go down as well as up. We may never know for certain.



Age several thousand?

Adventures of the TENTH DOCTOR

- **The Christmas Invasion** (1 episode)
- **New Earth** (1 episode)
- **Tooth and Claw** (1 episode)
- **School Reunion** (1 episode)
- **The Girl in the Fireplace** (1 episode)
- **Rise of the Cybermen/The Age of Steel** (2 episodes)
- **The Idiot's Lantern** (1 episode)
- **The Impossible Planet/The Satan Pit** (2 episodes)
- **Love & Monsters** (1 episode)
- **Fear Her** (1 episode)
- **Army of Ghosts/Doomsday** (2 episodes)
- **The Runaway Bride** (1 episode)
- **Smith and Jones** (1 episode)
- **The Shakespeare Code** (1 episode)
- **Gridlock** (1 episode)
- **Daleks in Manhattan/Evolution of the Daleks** (2 episodes)
- **The Lazarus Experiment** (1 episode)
- **42** (1 episode)
- **Human Nature/The Family of Blood** (2 episodes)
- **Blink** (1 episode)
- **Utopia/The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords** (3 episodes)
- **Voyage of the Damned** (1 episode)
- **Partners in Crime** (1 episode)
- **The Fires of Pompeii** (1 episode)
- **Planet of the Ood** (1 episode)
- **The Sontaran Stratagem/The Poison Sky** (2 episodes)
- **The Doctor's Daughter** (1 episode)
- **The Unicorn and the Wasp** (1 episode)
- **Silence in the Library/Forest of the Dead** (2 episodes)
- **Midnight** (1 episode)
- **Turn Left** (1 episode)
- **The Stolen Earth/Journey's End** (2 episodes)
- **The Next Doctor** (1 episode)
- **Planet of the Dead** (1 episode)
- **The Waters of Mars** (1 episode)
- **The End of Time** (2 episodes)

Companions of the Tenth Doctor

- **Rose Tyler** (*Rose – Doomsday, Partners in Crime, The Poison Sky, Midnight – Journey's End*)

- **Mickey Smith** (*Rose, Aliens of London/World War Three, Father's Day, Boom Town – New Earth, School Reunion – The Age of Steel, Army of Ghosts/Doomsday, Journey's End*)

- **Jackie Tyler** (*Rose, The End of the World, Aliens of London/World War Three, Father's Day, The Parting of the Ways – New Earth, Rise of the Cybermen/The Age of Steel, Love & Monsters, Army of Ghosts/Doomsday, Journey's End*)

- **Sarah Jane Smith** (*The Time Warrior – The Hand of Fear, The Five Doctors, School Reunion, The Stolen Earth/Journey's End*)

- **Donna Noble** (*The Runaway Bride, Partners in Crime – Journey's End, The End of Time*)

- **Martha Jones** (*Smith and Jones – Last of the Time Lords, The Sontaran Stratagem – The Doctor's Daughter, The Stolen Earth/Journey's End*)

- **Captain Jack Harkness** (*The Empty Child – The Parting of the Ways, Utopia/The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords, The Stolen Earth/Journey's End*)

- **Wilfred Mott** (*Voyage of the Damned, Partners in Crime, The Sontaran Stratagem/The Poison Sky, Turn Left – Journey's End, The End of Time*)

Other recurring characters

- **Harriet Jones** (*The Christmas Invasion, The Stolen Earth*)

- **Trinity Wells** (*The Christmas Invasion, The Sound of Drums, The Poison Sky, Turn Left, The Stolen Earth, The End of Time*)

- **Newsreader** (*The Christmas Invasion, Voyage of the Damned, Turn Left, The Stolen Earth*)

- **Lady Cassandra O'Brien** (*New Earth*)

- **Novice Hame** (*New Earth, Gridlock*)

- **The Face of Boe** (*New Earth, Gridlock*)

- **K9 Mark III** (*School Reunion*)

- **K9 Mark IV** (*School Reunion, Journey's End*)

- **Pete Tyler** (*Rise of the Cybermen/The Age of Steel, Doomsday*)

- **Jake Simmonds** (*Rise of the Cybermen/Age of Steel, Doomsday*)

- **Daleks Sec, Thay** and **Jast** (*Army of Ghosts/Doomsday, Daleks in Manhattan/Evolution of the Daleks*)

- **Dalek Caan** (*Army of Ghosts/Doomsday, Daleks in Manhattan/Evolution of the Daleks, The Stolen Earth/Journey's End*)

- **Sylvia Noble** (*The Runaway Bride, Partners in Crime, The Sontaran Stratagem/The Poison Sky, Turn Left – Journey's End, The End of Time*)

- **Nerys** (*The Runaway Bride, The End of Time*)

- **Francine Jones** (*Smith and Jones, The Lazarus Experiment, 42, The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords, The Stolen Earth/Journey's End*)

- **Tish Jones** (*Smith and Jones, The Lazarus Experiment, The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords*)

- **Leo Jones** (*Smith and Jones, The Lazarus Experiment, The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords*)

- **Clive Jones** (*Smith and Jones, The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords*)

- **Oliver Morgenstern** (*Smith and Jones, Turn Left*)

- **Sinister Woman** (*42, The Sound of Drums*)

- **The Master** (*Utopia/The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords, The End of Time*)

- **Lucy Saxon** (*The Sound of Drums/Last of the Time Lords, The End of Time*)

- **Ood Sigma** (*Planet of the Ood, The Waters of Mars, The End of Time*)

- **Private Harris** (*The Sontaran Stratagem/The Poison Sky, Turn Left*)

- **Captain Arisa Magambo** (*Turn Left, Planet of the Dead*)

- **Davros** (*The Stolen Earth/Journey's End*)

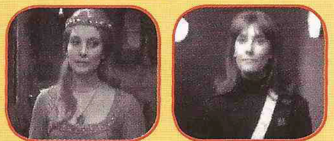
Second helpings!

What connects Martha Jones, Wilfred Mott, and Martha's dad Clive? Well, from the moment each of them became embroiled in the Tenth Doctor's adventures, Freema Agyeman, Bernard Cribbins and Trevor Laird attained membership of a select band of *Doctor Who* regulars who had already appeared in other roles earlier in the show's history. More than four decades before Wilf came into his life, Bernard Cribbins won the hearts of *Doctor Who* fans as lovable Tom Campbell in *Daleks – Invasion Earth 2150 AD*, the 1966 big-screen adventure starring Peter Cushing as the Doctor (that's a whole other 'Watcher's Guide' right there, but let's concentrate on the matter in hand). This means that Cribbins is one of only two actors to have portrayed more than one companion (the other is Wendy Padbury, who was Zoe on TV and Jenny in the 1974 stage play *Seven Keys to Doomsday*, starring Trevor Martin as the Doctor – crikey, yet another 'Watcher's Guide' there). It also gives Cribbins one of the very longest active associations with *Doctor Who* and its spin-offs – although not quite the longest, as Nicholas Courtney, Zienia Merton and various companions who have returned for Big Finish's audio stories will tell you.

By contrast, Freema Agyeman's brief appearance as Adeola Oshodi in *Army of Ghosts*, a mere three episodes before her début as Martha in *Smith and Jones*, finds her netting a remarkably speedy promotion from guest role to regular (but not the speediest ever, as we'll see in just a moment). Somewhere in between lies Trevor Laird who, 21 years before Clive Jones, strutted his stuff as macho guard commander Frax in 1986's *The Trial of a Time Lord*.

But it doesn't stop there – not by a long chalk. It's time to rewind through *Doctor Who*'s history and uncover some of the show's other pre-regular doppelgängers...

Joanna (The Crusade)



Just a few months before the arrival of Sara Kingdom in *The Daleks' Master Plan*, Jean Marsh breathed life into Richard the Lionheart's angry sister at the behest of the same director, Douglas Camfield. Many years later she completed a hat-trick when she returned to play the dimension-hopping sorceress Morgaine in *Battlefield*.

Morton Dill (The Chase)

In the third episode of 1965's picaresque flight through insanity, Peter Purves made his *Doctor Who* début as rib-tickling Alabama hillbilly Morton Dill. Purves was a hit with the production team, and three episodes later he was installed as new companion Steven Taylor.

Bret Vyon (The Daleks' Master Plan)

Tied to a chair by the Doctor and ruthlessly shot by Sara Kingdom (not in the same scene, you understand), heroic space agent Bret Vyon gave us an early glimpse of the legend that is Nicholas Courtney, later to win immortality as Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart. Once again, director Douglas Camfield was responsible for casting him in both roles.

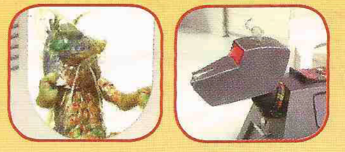
A Yeti (The Web of Fear)

John Levene began his career as a lowly walk-on, stomping around in monster suits during the Second Doctor's era. Luckily for us all, the director of *The Web of Fear* took a shine to him and cast him as Corporal Benton in *The Invasion*. And yes, it was Douglas Camfield yet again.

Lt Andrews (Carnival of Monsters)

Having auditioned unsuccessfully for the role of Mike Yates a couple of years earlier, Ian Marter was recalled by producer/director Barry Letts to make his *Doctor Who* début in 1973 as a square-jawed young naval officer. The not entirely dissimilar role of Harry Sullivan followed not long afterwards.

The Nucleus (The Invisible Enemy)



"Contact has been made!" John Leeson's gurgling Nucleus, one of *Doctor Who*'s playground imitation classics, pips the voice of K9 by a whole episode. Leeson later appeared in person as Dugeen in *The Power of Kroll*, and also voiced the battle computer in *Remembrance of the Daleks*.

Princess Astra (The Armageddon Factor)

Voiceovers aside, the record for the swiftest turnaround from guest role to companion is held by Lalla Ward, who pulls off the feat in consecutive episodes: one minute she's floaty Princess Astra, and the next she's a newly regenerated Romana. "I thought it looked very nice on the princess," she points out sensibly.

Commander Maxil (Arc of Infinity)

As everyone knows, Colin Baker's audition for the role of the Sixth Doctor consisted of being the life and soul of a wedding party – and, shortly before that, prancing around Gallifrey doing his best to demonstrate that you can look menacing even with an ostrich's bum on your head.

Lexa (Meglos)

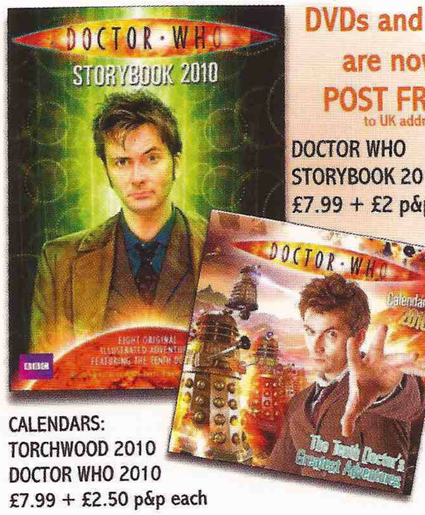
And finally, a back-to-front example: 14 years after Barbara Wright hung up her travelling shoes, Jacqueline Hill returned beneath a new and reassuringly spectacular hairstyle to play the fanatical Deon priestess in 1980's *Meglos*.

Regeneration No.10

Ah-ah, no peeking now...

Faction Paradox
SIGNED BY GABRIEL WOOLF
THE JUDGMENT OF SUTEKH

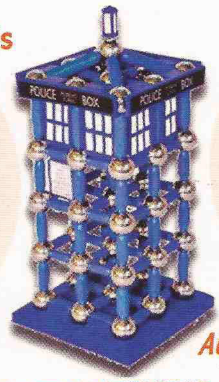
FACTION PARADOX 2:6
THE JUDGMENT OF SUTEKH
New drama on CD
£10.99 POST FREE


DOCTOR WHO
STORYBOOK 2010
EIGHT ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATED ADVENTURES FEATURING THE TENTH DOCTOR
BBC
DOCTOR WHO
Calendar 2010
The Tenth Doctor's Greatest Adventures

DVDs and CDs are now POST FREE
to UK addresses

DOCTOR WHO
STORYBOOK 2010
£7.99 + £2 p&p

CALENDARS:
TORCHWOOD 2010
DOCTOR WHO 2010
£7.99 + £2.50 p&p each



SUPERMAG TARDIS
Build your own TARDIS
model £24.99 + £8 p&p

VISIT OUR STORE IN SHEFFIEL
FOR TOYS, BOOKS, CDS, DVD

VISIT OUR NEW LOOK WEBSIT

NEW FEATURES INCLUDE
UPDATED SEARCH FACILIT
POSTAGE OPTION
AUTOMATIC "IN STOCK" NOTIFICATIO
CLEARER PRODUCT INFORMATIO
EASIER NAVIGATION and much mor

www.galaxy4.co.uk

GALAXY FOUR

0114 2684976 www.galaxy4.co.uk
493 GLOSSOP ROAD SHEFFIELD S10 2QE

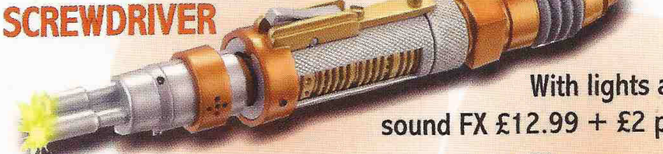
CLASSIC AND NEW SERIES 5" FIGURE SELECTIO
Prices from £4.99 + postage

CYBERMAN STATUES

CYBERMAN
CYBERLEADER

12" Tall/1:6 Scale
Cast in high quality polystone
Presentation Box
Only 500 of each Worldwide
Individually Numbered
£120 each POST FREE
ORDER BOTH FOR
£230 POST FREE
(Due Feb/March)

THE MASTER'S LASER SCREWDRIVER



With lights and
sound FX £12.99 + £2 p&p

THE DOCTOR'S FOB WATCH
This fully working fob watch has detailed engraving effect and features speech, light, sound FX and watch chain £14.99 + £2 p&p

HE'S BACK! MASTER GIFT SET
With Doctor,
Martha, Yana
and Master
£19.99 + £5 p&p

GOLD PLATE MICRO DALEK
22K Gold plated Micro Action Movie Dalek
This is a Limited Edition of only 500, made exclusively for the 2008 San Diego Comic Con.
In presentation box. £34.99 + £3 p&p

ORDERS OVER £100 DELIVERED POST FREE
UK mainland only. Excludes pre-orders

ELECTRONIC TARDIS
With lights and sound effects. Doors open to accomodate 5" figures (not included)
£14.99 + £5 p&p

POLICE PUBLIC CALL BOX
FIGURE NOT INCLUDE

SERIES 4 COLLECT AND BUILD Collect all 12 figure packs to build the Vespiform £75 + £8 p&p

Prices correct at time of going to press. All items subject to P&P. Free Post Offers are UK only. Opening times 10-5 Mon-Fri and 10-4 Sat.
We accept VISA, MASTERCARD, SOLO and MAESTRO. Cheques and Postal Orders payable to GALAXY 4. Minimum order value accepted is £9.98. Terms and conditions at www.galaxy4.co.uk

THE TIME TEAM

Four fans, one mission: to watch all 756 episodes of **Doctor Who**. In order. From the start.

POLICE
AMBULANCE

Compiled by **MICHAEL PRITCHARD** ● Illustration by **ADRIAN SALMON**

» EPISODE 696

DOCTOR WHO

It was on the planet Earth that our old enemies the Time Team were finally put out to pasture for a while. They say Clay, Jac, Richard and Peter listened calmly as their list of evil crimes was read and a DVD of the 1996 Doctor Who *TV Movie was played. Then they made their last and, I thought, somewhat curious, request. They demanded that I, Michael Pritchard, a rival Time Lord, should take them out to the nearest pub for a final knees-up and an impromptu photo session.*

It was a request I should never have granted...

“That's a *mad* opening sequence!” says Richard as the TV Movie begins. “The Master is blown to smithereens, and the Daleks sound like Mickey Mouse. And what on earth would possess the Daleks to hand over the Master's remains to the Doctor?”

“And we don't even see the Daleks!” adds Jac. “As a parent of small children, I'm fast learning that monsters are the most important thing in *Doctor Who*. So where are they?”

“It's an absurd amount of information to impart in the first minute,” says Peter. “But doesn't it look *lush*? And did you notice, the Master still has cat-like eyes – a direct reference to *Survival*, perhaps? And he's wearing a very silly pointed hat for his extermination.”

“Isn't that his extermination capsule?” wonders Clay. “I suppose the Daleks put the Master on trial for the events of *Frontier in Space*. But nothing about it makes sense – I thought Skaro had been blown up. The change in the Dalek voices makes me wonder if perhaps they are nice, humanised ones that the Doctor could trust to let him be as he picked up the Master's casket. Otherwise it's badly referenced gibberish. What's the point of dropping in all that continuity if it's all wrong?”

As the middle-eight of the theme tune crashes in, Richard claps. “The return of the Pertwee logo! I always liked that design. This version of the theme tune sounds a bit like the sort of thing you'd get on a 99p album of sci-fi greats from Geoff Love and his Orchestra, though. That said, I rather like it.”

“It's nice,” agrees Clay, “but I think the theme should have something scary and slithery about it, which it hasn't had since the Peter Howell version.”

We cut inside the TARDIS – and discover the Seventh Doctor! “Doesn't it seem a bit odd, the person doing the voice-over being obviously different to the one we see in the TARDIS?” asks Jac. “I know we know there's going to be a regeneration, but it's rather confusing.”

Cliché Counter

DEATHS ON SCREEN SO FAR	01270
ONE OR MORE REGULARS RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS	00212
ONE OR MORE REGULARS INCARCERATED	00255

Richard points to the Doctor's sudden lack of question marks. “You see, put Sylvester in a decent outfit, lose the tank top, and suddenly he looks fine.”

Peter nods. “He looks amazing. A Doctor at ease with the world, and now seeming much older. But where's Ace?”

“I get the feeling it could be centuries later for the Doctor,” says Clay mischievously. “I'm sure he and Ace and a variety of other companions had many, many new adventures that we didn't see on TV.”

But there's a lot more to see in the TARDIS than the Doctor. A *lot* more. “I love this control room with its Jules Verne-type console and the acres of living space around,” says Richard. “Mind you, it must be a pain to keep lighting all those candles all the time.”

“Ooooh, it's gorgeous. Best control room *ever*!” squeals Peter. “And it's *huge*!”

Clay has issues. “The cut straight inside the police box is very odd, as if this was just a week after *Survival* and we could all be expected to know what the TARDIS is and that it's bigger inside than out. But it's *seven years* later. What would children or the American audience make of this? And why is the Doctor listening to that horrible record?” He frowns. “And though I love the console and those girders, it doesn't look like a vehicle that travels. Just a big room in a warehouse or something.”

The Master's globby remains slither out of the casket. “I can cope with the Master somehow

PETER
CLAY
JAC
RICHARD

cheating death again," says Richard. "After all, the Ainley version seemed to be doing that every story during his tenure, but this ectoplasm-snake thing is just a bit of a leap too far."

"Oh, I dunno," says Peter. "I love discovering new things about characters we thought we knew well."

"What's really odd," says Clay, "is that the story is at such pains to get little things like the sonic screwdriver and jelly babies right, but it drives a bulldozer right through the big continuity issues like the snake thing."

The Doctor sets the controls for San Francisco in 1999 – for reasons that will become clear later. Then he walks out of the TARDIS – and –

"Oh, the irony!" wails Peter. "After all the meticulous planning and scheming the Seventh Doctor's done, he's gunned down as he leaves the TARDIS cos he didn't bother to check the scanner."

Jac shakes her head. "A gangland gun-battle. That sort of real-world violence never sits well in *Doctor Who*. And Chang Lee must be one of the most socially responsible gun-toting gang members ever. Calls an ambulance, goes with the Doctor, even hangs around waiting to see if he's OK."

Peter nods. "Absolutely. He's only had a few minutes of screen time so far, but I've taken to him immediately."

"He's pretty fab," nods Jac. "And his comment about his shoes fitting perfectly so fits the Doctor. He may have lost his memory, but at least he's pleased with the small things in life."

"His glee and Grace's look to camera are joyous!" raves Peter. "That, charming, quirky scene proves that, however different this show may look, this really is still the *Doctor Who* we know and love."

"And I don't mind their kiss," says Richard. "The Doctor tightly clamps his lips shut and it's a kiss of joy rather than passion. I'm not so keen on the long string of drool that follows though."

"Well, the *first* kiss is just one of joy at being alive," says Jac. "Not so sure about the second, though."

"I love the kiss!" says Peter. "He's such a happy Time Lord, it's heart-warming to see!"

And then something rather peculiar happens to the Team. The story proper of the Doctor's battle with the Master begins as Chang Lee enters the TARDIS to meet the Master, and the Team's raving and positivity begin to dry up.

"This is directed so beautifully! Every detail, like the Doctor's first breath, is so perfect!" **Richard**

"It's scary to see the Seventh Doctor so helpless, pleading for Dr Grace Holloway to listen to him as he's about to undergo surgery," says Peter.

"Grace running into the hospital in a ballgown is wonderful," says Jac. "The use of Puccini to heighten the tension during the operation scene is terrific. Sometimes this gets it so *right*. Yet at *other* times…"

"Despite the fact that the story's set in San Francisco in what would have been the near future back in 1996," says Peter, "this feels like the most alien environment the Doctor's ever visited. The combination of the beautifully shot film and the American accents make it seem as if the Doctor's guesting in a US medical drama. But that said, I'm really enjoying it."

The dead Doctor comes back to life, scaring the life out of a mortuary attendant. "I'm not too sure about the regeneration gurning as Sylvester becomes Paul McGann," says Richard, "but the mimicking of what's happing in the *Frankenstein* movie being watched by the morgue attendant is a lovely touch. This is directed so beautifully – every last detail, like the new Doctor's first breath, is lit and framed perfectly."

The new Doctor gets some togs together – a Wild Bill Hickock fancy dress outfit. "So the Doctor is actually wearing a costume in the strictest sense of the word rather than just clothes," says Richard.

"It would have been very different if he'd gone with the long scarf and a Nixon mask," says Jac.

The amnesiac Doctor goes in search of Grace. "I really like the fact that the Doctor is playing off an older person this time," says Richard. "We've had such a succession of young people over the years, it's nice to have someone with a bit more maturity."

"You fancy her, don't you?" says Peter. "I can't blame you."

"The moment when the Doctor pulls out the tube from his chest is brilliant," says Clay. "I instantly like both Paul McGann and Daphne Ashbrook as Grace. They're a great team."

"McGann slips into the role of the Doctor with tremendous ease," says Richard as the pair reach Grace's home. "He's both likable and quirky, and someone that you'd actually like to be around."

After 900-ish years, the Doctor gets his first snog! (Long string of drool not pictured.)

"Chang Lee's entrance into the TARDIS is really nice," says Jac. "Goes in, comes out, walks around, goes back in – just like you would."

Clay nods. "Would it not have been better to begin the story with the gun battle, and find out all the stuff about the Doctor and the Master here for the first time?"

"I'm not sure why the Master bothers telling Chang Lee all those lies when he's already controlling him with threats," adds Jac. "Sort of – 'I'll murder you if you don't help me do good.' And I'm not sure why the TARDIS likes Lee so much either – or is the Master making that up?"

"Like Anthony Ainley, Eric Roberts seems to be playing the Master as some kind of moustache-twirling arch villain," says Richard.

"Only without the moustache, or the beard, for once!" says Peter. "He's astonishingly evil. You could almost have affection for the past Masters – however inappropriate it might have been really – but this one is just nasty. He snapped someone's neck, for goodness' sake!"

The Master tells Chang Lee about the Time Lords, the Eye of Harmony, and that the Doctor is –

"The Doctor is half-human?!" exclaims Richard. "Where did that one come from? I don't particularly mind the concept and, as the Master alludes, it probably explains his fondness for Earth, but it seems an odd thing to add into the mix when you're having to try to explain so many other things."

"The writer Matthew Jacobs is much better at the human, emotional stuff than the sci-fi," Clay reckons. "Some of the sci-fi expository lines are just dreadful, big long unsayable info-dumps. But I love the scenes of the Master picking up the Doctor in the ambulance, and the Doctor's stand-off with the traffic cop. The tone is all over the place. There can't be many dramas that have a vicious gangland shoot-out and then a traffic jam caused by escaped chickens."

"It's reassuring to see to that the Doctor still eschews the use of guns and violence to achieve his aims," says Peter.

The Doctor and Grace rush off to find the beryllium clock that can stop the Master opening the Eye of Harmony. "Wow! " says Jac. "Everything that's going on, and the Doctor still stops off to weigh himself every 20 minutes. Mind you, I remember being a bit like that when I was on Weight Watchers." But she frowns as the Doctor talks to junior lab man Gareth. "Hang on, now the Doctor can tell the future. OK, so we could assume he's met Gareth in the future, but it's not presented like that. McCoy had started to do that magician thing, and now the Doctor's some mind-reading seer!"

Richard's confused. "What's setting alarm clocks got to do with closing the Eye of Harmony?" As the ▶

AND **YOU** SAID…

"There is one thing that really destroys it for me – what idiot thought it would be a good idea to get Alvin and the Chipmunks to voice the Daleks? Making them breathe helium is just adding insult to injury!" SIMON THORPE SUFFOLK

For one night or
Paul McGann
the Doctor!

"I don't care what anyone says, the scene where Bruce the paramedic is taken over by the Master, is the creepiest moment in *Doctor Who* ever! Why do people overlook that scene?! I was seven years old and it totally traumatised me. I always remember never to sleep with my mouth wide open!" SHAUN HOLDER FACEBOOK

"Sylvester McCoy's final scene on the operating table is the most downright horrific death of any of the Doctors! I was left feeling sad, yet terrified! How ironic that after so many years of saving the Earth from countless dangers, it would be a mere human who ends his life…" JOHN GUPPY BERKSHIRE

"Paul fitted into the role perfectly, playing the character in a way very traditional to the show, yet still bringing something new to it. The Eighth Doctor is still crying out for his own series." ALEX STORER SHEFFIELD

"Paul McGann is wonderful! He seems to understand the show instinctively. Unfortunately, no-one else involved with this episode does." ANDREW PHILIPS FACEBOOK

"Half-human? Cloaking device? Eye-rolling, fainting mortuary attendant? It's only the two McDoctors who saved this one…" PETE HAZELL LONDON

"Okay, so the TV Movie was no *Caves of Androzani*, granted. But on the other hand it was no *Twin Dilemma* or *Underworld* either. The American influence wasn't as intrusive as it could've been: McGann was excellent, McCoy was great, and above all else – *Doctor Who* was back! Even if it was for one night only…" SIMON WICKS NOTTINGHAM

"When I saw the TV Movie as a kid, my initial though was 'Action. Humour. This movie is *great* – especially the motorbike in the TARDIS scene!' Now, with hindsight, I think, 'The motorbike scene is still great, but since when could the Master turn into a puddle?!'" DALE SCHWASS AUSTRALIA

"The acting is quality, the TARDIS interior is wonderfully vast, Eric Roberts is very creepy as the Master, and Grace is a brilliantly sassy companion. However, it's Paul McGann who steals the show as the Doctor that we should have seen more of." MEZ BURDETT LONDON

◀ heroes return to the TARDIS for a final confrontation with the Master he gets more and more baffled. "So the Eye has been shut for 700 years because a human's never looked into it. Lucky that, say, Barbara or Mel or Harry never wandered into that room. Oh, can't you just imagine Harry doing it? Whoops, he's tripped, pulled out the staff, looked into the Eye and now the universe is about to end. 'Harry Sullivan is an imbecile!'"

But Peter's attention is taken by the entrance of the Master in full Time Lord regalia. "Ha ha, the Master has taken time to 'dress for the occasion'! Bonkers, unexpected and utterly *right*!"

Clay has another issue. "I don't like the image of the Doctor trussed up and pleading. In his first story, each of the other Doctors wins through very cleverly at the end. But this one is desperate and neutered. He needs to be a hero!"

All seems lost – but then the Doctor leaps to the console. Jac boggles. "He's going back to before the Eye was opened to stop it being opened – what?! *WHAT?!* No no no no no no no no no! That's against everything ever in *Doctor Who*. They can never have adventures ever again, there'll always be a reset button!"

The Time Team celebrate their milestone with a 1999 vintage bottle of champers!

Richard agrees. "The music and atmosphere as the Doctor takes Grace up the stairs and lays her down is lovely, but what's all this about their resurrection?

"I've got absolutely no idea what happened in this resolution. Is this supposed to be some notion where if you travel back in time, then none of it will have happened and everything will be alright?"

"We've completed our original mission statement: to watch all 696 episodes of *Doctor Who!*"

Jac huffs. "I can cope with 'magic dust' from the Eye of Harmony. It's so powerful and Time-Lordy that I don't see why it couldn't bring people back to life. It's the implication in 'Did we go back far enough?' that it was going back in time thing that resurrected them that I'm going to run very far away from."

So all is well – somehow. The Doctor asks Grace to come with him on his travels. "Awww!" says Richard. "Just what I wanted to hear. He's found a real connection with her. I'd love her to go with him in the TARDIS. Their farewell kiss is different, more tender, than the first one."

"And isn't that look the Doctor gives Grace as he's about to enter the TARDIS just perfect?" sighs Peter.

"Psh!" cries Jac. "Grace Holloway is stupid! OK, so she got killed and stuff, but she's just had the universe offered to her, and she said no! Oh, I could understand if she had ties on Earth, but she has no boyfriend, no job – and this gorgeous man who she really fancies has offered to take her away through time and space. What was she thinking?"

As the credits roll, the Team offer their thoughts. "What an interesting production," says Richard. "I instantly warmed to both Paul McGann and Daphne Ashbrook and the TARDIS design was clever and inventive. But for a pilot, designed to introduce a new audience to the character, there seemed to have been some very strange decisions made. I think it was a wrong move to use the character of the Master in this story. However much of a villain he is, he's still just a humanoid and visually, that makes the finished product very pedestrian in nature as it ends up being just people talking to other people. When it comes down to it, *Doctor Who* is about a time traveller fighting evil aliens and monsters, and that's what this story lacked. It should have been a monster story, an alien invasion or somesuch. Not the Master riding around in an ambulance."

Peter goes next. "It had a terrific cast, amazing direction and, as a result of an unprecedented budget for *Doctor Who*, every single shot looked fantastic. The script was a little muddled in places, but its heart was in the right place. Despite such a limited time on screen, McGann nailed the character of the Doctor. Had this gone to a series, I'm sure it would have been a massive success."

Jac hems and haws. "I agree with the praise of Paul McGann, the direction – and oh, that lovely location filming. But the story itself... Richard's spot on that it was mad as a pilot, and it didn't really work for fans either. It seemed to be aimed solely at people who had a vague memory of what *Doctor Who* was and knew he was played by that bloke from *Jigsaw* and he could change what he looked like, but didn't know any details. I loved some of it – but absolutely hated the way they changed everything we've ever known about how time works in *Doctor Who*, and I hated the gratuitous violence."

Clay is oddly hesitant in giving his view. "I'm finding it very hard to disassociate myself from the present day as we normally do in the Time Team quite easily. Because of the BBC Wales series, the movie now seems like a strange blind alley instead of a final, fumbled opportunity. The scenes from the gun battle to just after the Doctor recovers his memory are beautiful. Perfect! But the nonsense of the main plot overshadows the direction and the brilliant casting. It was all so convoluted and inward-looking." He sighs. "I just wish we'd seen a lot more of the Eighth Doctor on TV. He was great."

Peter claps his hands. "Fellow Time Teamers, after just over ten years, we've finally completed our original mission statement, as set down in **DWM** 279 – 'To watch all 696 episodes of *Doctor Who*, in order, from the start.' I can't believe we made it!"

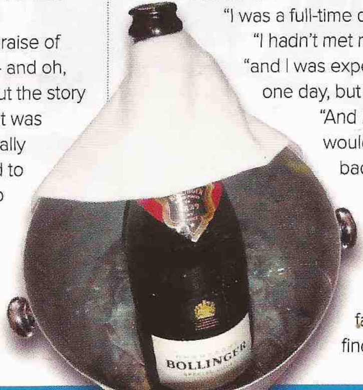
"Ahem," says Jac. "It may have escaped your attention, but there have been another 60 episodes made since then!"

But before that journey begins, the Team deserve a break. "The shortest gap between an original transmission and us Time Teaming it was today – 13 years," says Richard. "So shall we get back together in 2018 for *Rose*?"

"I think you can manage a bit sooner than that," I say sternly.

As the Team head for the pub, Clay stares back into time. "I was a junior insurance clerk when we started the Time Team."

"I was a full-time dentist," says Peter.



"I hadn't met my husband," says Jac, "and I was expecting to have children one day, but not two in one go."

"And I thought *Doctor Who* would never, ever come back on TV," says Richard.

"Ssh!" says Jac. "We're the Time Team, we don't know that yet."

But one day, not too far in the future, they will find out... DWM

THE BIG FINISH SALE

Prices slashed from 1st December 2009 until 9th January 2010

DOCTOR WHO
SHORT TRIPS
BERNICE SUMMERFIELD AND THE POISON SEAS
DOCTOR WHO THE STAGEPLAYS
SEVEN KEYS TO DOOMSDAY
GALLIFREY
ELISABETH SLADEN
SARAH JANE SMITH
DREAMLAND
DOCTOR WHO
SHORT TRIPS: HOW THE DOCTOR CHANGED MY LIFE
A SHORT STORY ANTHOLOGY
EDITED BY SIMON GUERRIER
WITH A FOREWORD BY PAUL CORNELL
BERNICE SUMMERFIELD AND THE GREL ESCAPE
STARRING LISA BOWERMAN
Time and Space. Good and Evil. Gin and Tonic.
IRIS WILDTHYME
THE COMPLETE SERIES TWO
STARRING KATY MANNING
FOUR FULL CAST AUDIO DRAMAS!
BBC7
POLICE BOX
STARRING PAUL McGANN
DOCTOR WHO
THE EIGHTH DOCTOR COLLECTION
WITH MARK GATISS JESSICA HYNES SIMON PEGG GARETH THOMAS AND INDIA FISHER
REMEMBER ME
DAVID WARNER
SUSANNAH HARKER
Sapphire & Steel
WALL OF DARKNESS
COLIN BAKER
DAVID BANKS
DOCTOR WHO
THE STAGEPLAYS
THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE

Including:

DOCTOR WHO: THE STAGE PLAYS
DOCTOR WHO: SHORT TRIPS
SAPPHIRE AND STEEL
DOCTOR WHO: EIGHTH DOCTOR BOX SET
IRIS WILDTHYME

Plus

SARAH JANE, GALLIFREY, BERNICE SUMMERFIELD

and much, much more!

BIG FINISH

ONLY AT BIGFINISH.COM

Doctor Who (word marks, logos and devices), Daleks and TARDIS, are trade marks of the British Broadcasting Corporation and are used under licence. Daleks © The estate of Terry Nation and used under licence. Doctor Who logo © 1996. Licensed by BBC Audiobooks.

THE FACT OF FICTION

"... and it is gonna be... *fantastic!*" **David Bailey** turns back the clock four years, to the moment we met the Tenth Doctor...

DAVID TENNANT
BILLIE PIPER
DOCTOR WHO

Jackie (Camille Coduri) and Mickey (Noel Clarke) are taken aback by the mad stranger who seems to know who they are...

The Christmas Invasion

DOCTOR WHO: CHILDREN IN NEED
BROADCAST: 18 NOVEMBER 2005

Following a recap of the events leading up to the Ninth Doctor's regeneration – Rose absorbing the Time Vortex and using the energy to destroy the Daleks, and the Doctor taking the energy from her, triggering his regeneration – we join Rose (Billie Piper) and the Tenth Doctor (David Tennant) in the TARDIS...

- The scenes from this recap were, of course, taken from the end of *The Parting of the Ways* (2005).
- No on-screen title is given for this 'special scene', which was broadcast as part of the BBC's charity telethon, *Children in Need*. Production documentation refers to it as *Doctor Who: Children in Need*. Writer Russell T Davies joked in **DWM** that fans could call the sequence *Pudsey Cutaway*, while BBC Books' *Companions and Allies* by Steve Tribe, published in 2009, gives it the unofficial title *Born Again*.

The Doctor sets the coordinates for their promised trip to the planet Barcelona, then closely examines his new body. Rose, meanwhile, seems terrified, distrustful of this stranger's identity. She's been around the intergalactic block, and won't be taken in by this trick...

- The Doctor had first suggested a trip to Barcelona (where the dogs have no noses, boom boom) in *The Parting of the Ways*.
- Rose reels off a list of all the bizarre things she has seen: nanogenes (from *The Empty Child*/*The Doctor Dances* (2005)), Gelth (*The Unquiet Dead* (2005)), and Slitheen (*Aliens of London*/*World War Three* (2005) and *Boom Town* (2005)).

The Doctor promises her that he's not a Slitheen, but Rose demands that he send the real Doctor back. He explains that he's still the same man, reminding her of their first meeting...

- "Trapped in that cellar, surrounded by shop window dummies..." The Doctor is referring to the opening scenes of *Rose* (2005).

Rose wonders if the Doctor can change back. When he admits that he can't, he offers to take Rose home, changing the TARDIS' destination – the Powell Estate, London, on Christmas Eve. The Doctor tries to cheer Rose up, but his body is wracked by spasms, and a curl of golden energy escapes from his mouth...

- This is the same Time Vortex energy that caused all the trouble in *The Parting of the Ways.*

"Let's go and find Captain Jack, he'd know what to do," Rose says. But the Doctor replies, "Nah, he's busy – he's got plenty to do, rebuilding the Earth."

- Jack was exterminated by the Daleks in the previous episode but Rose, wielding the power of the Time Vortex, brought him back to life. Human Rose was unaware of his death, and it's difficult to say if she was aware of the actions of 'Super Rose'; either way, her suggestion seems perfectly sensible. So, why is the Doctor so quick to dismiss it? In *Utopia* (2007), when Jack finally catches up with the Doctor again, we learn that the Doctor knew he'd been resurrected – and made immortal – and he'd been carefully avoiding him ever since. As a "fixed point in time", Jack was unnatural, something of which the Doctor seemed very wary.

Increasingly crazed, the Doctor spins the TARDIS' controls, speeding up their arrival on Earth. Lucid for a moment, he reveals that the regeneration is going wrong. The Cloister Bell starts to chime as a manic Doctor announces their arrival...

- If you've watched the DVD release of this scene – included on the *Complete Second Series* box set – you may wonder where the Cloister Bell is. In its place, you'll hear a simple ringing alarm. This version of the scene is actually an earlier edit, and its inclusion on the DVD was a mistake. (The Region 1 version of the discs features the proper, broadcast version.) Other differences include the end theme music being used as incidental music, and a slightly different version of the opening recap.

"All those planets, creatures and horizons, I haven't seen them yet..."

HOW TIME FLIES. *The Christmas Invasion* was David Tennant's... No, wait. The 2005 Christmas Special *wasn't* Tennant's first appearance as the Doctor. Before that, he starred in a 'special scene' recorded for BBC One's *Children in Need* night, which we cover here for completeness' sake. (And, of course, his very, *very* first appearance is at the end of *The Parting of the Ways*, but let's not split hairs.) But by the end of the hour-and-a-bit comprised of these two broadcasts, Tennant had made his mark on the show: a chatty, amiable, non-ginger, slightly unpredictable new Doctor.

Tennant's assumption of the mantle of the Tenth Time Lord was teased throughout *The Christmas Invasion*, two thirds of which he spends mostly unconscious. Heightening the audience's anticipation for his proper début, the episode doesn't disappoint when it finally delivers: out of the TARDIS he pops, saving the day with reams of gabble and a daring challenge to a terrifying alien warlord. It's an impressive, confident start to Tennant's tenure, and one which only hints at the wonderful things the actor would do with the role over the years to come – and the heights of popularity to which his work would take the series.

In his time aboard the TARDIS, Tennant has taken the Doctor on a journey past euphoric joy and victory, through some of his darkest hours, exposing the Time Lord's humanity as well as his otherness. So now, as we prepare to say goodbye to David Tennant, it seems the perfect time to remind ourselves of how he began to weave his magic on the viewing public. It may have only been four years ago, but so much has happened in that short time. It's been a breathless, dizzying ride – and it began with little more than a sword fight and a satsuma...

THE CHRISTMAS INVASION
BROADCAST: 25 DECEMBER 2005

Jackie Tyler (Camille Coduri) is decorating the Christmas tree in her flat, while Mickey Smith (Noel Clarke) works in the garage up the road. They both hear the strained noise of the TARDIS in flight and rush out together to welcome Rose back.

- "She's alive, Mickey," Jackie cries in relief. "I said so, didn't I? She's alive!" Jackie hadn't seen her daughter since *The Parting of the Ways*, when the TARDIS spirited her away, back to Earth's future to confront the Daleks.

The TARDIS crashes back to Earth...

The TARDIS comes tearing out of a rift in the sky, smashing clumsily into the walls of the Powell Estate, before crash-landing by the bins. The new Tenth Doctor stumbles out and confusedly wishes them a Merry Christmas before fainting at their feet. Rose emerges and introduces Jackie and Mickey to the new Doctor...

- In March 2005, following the runaway success of the first episode of the revived series, Jane Tranter, the Controller of BBC Drama, announced a new series of 13 episodes – along with this Christmas Special. Writer and executive producer Russell T Davies had known the extra episode might be a possibility, and leapt to the task with relish. (Now, of course, an annual *Doctor Who* Christmas Special is almost a tradition!) This wasn't the first time the series had been broadcast on Christmas Day, however: the seventh episode of *The Daleks' Master Plan* (1965/66), *The Feast of Steven*, was broadcast on 25 December 1965, and featured the First Doctor's now infamous toast to the viewers: "And incidentally, a Happy Christmas to all of you at home!" Blessedly, there was no such bulldozing of the fourth wall in *The Christmas Invasion.*

Inside the Tylers' flat, the unconscious Doctor lies tucked up in bed, wearing pyjamas. Jackie rushes in with a stethoscope, which she 'borrowed' from Tina the Cleaner's medical student lodger. Rose checks the Doctor's two heartbeats, and they seem fine.

- "Anything else he's got two of?" Jackie asks, lasciviously. Rose's mum clearly likes this new Doctor, which is a sea change following their frequent butting of heads throughout the previous series. The feeling, as we'll see, is surprisingly mutual.

They leave the Doctor alone to rest, failing to see a 'sigh' of golden energy escape from his lips. The energy flies up through the sky and out into space... ▸

'Rose's mum clearly likes this new Doctor – and the feeling is, perhaps surprisingly, mutual...'

The Christmas Invasion

Ask and ye shall receive...

"CAN I HAVE A PART IN *DOCTOR WHO*, PLEASE?" says eager young David Tennant.

"Of course!" cries Russell T Davies. "Do you want to be the Doctor?"

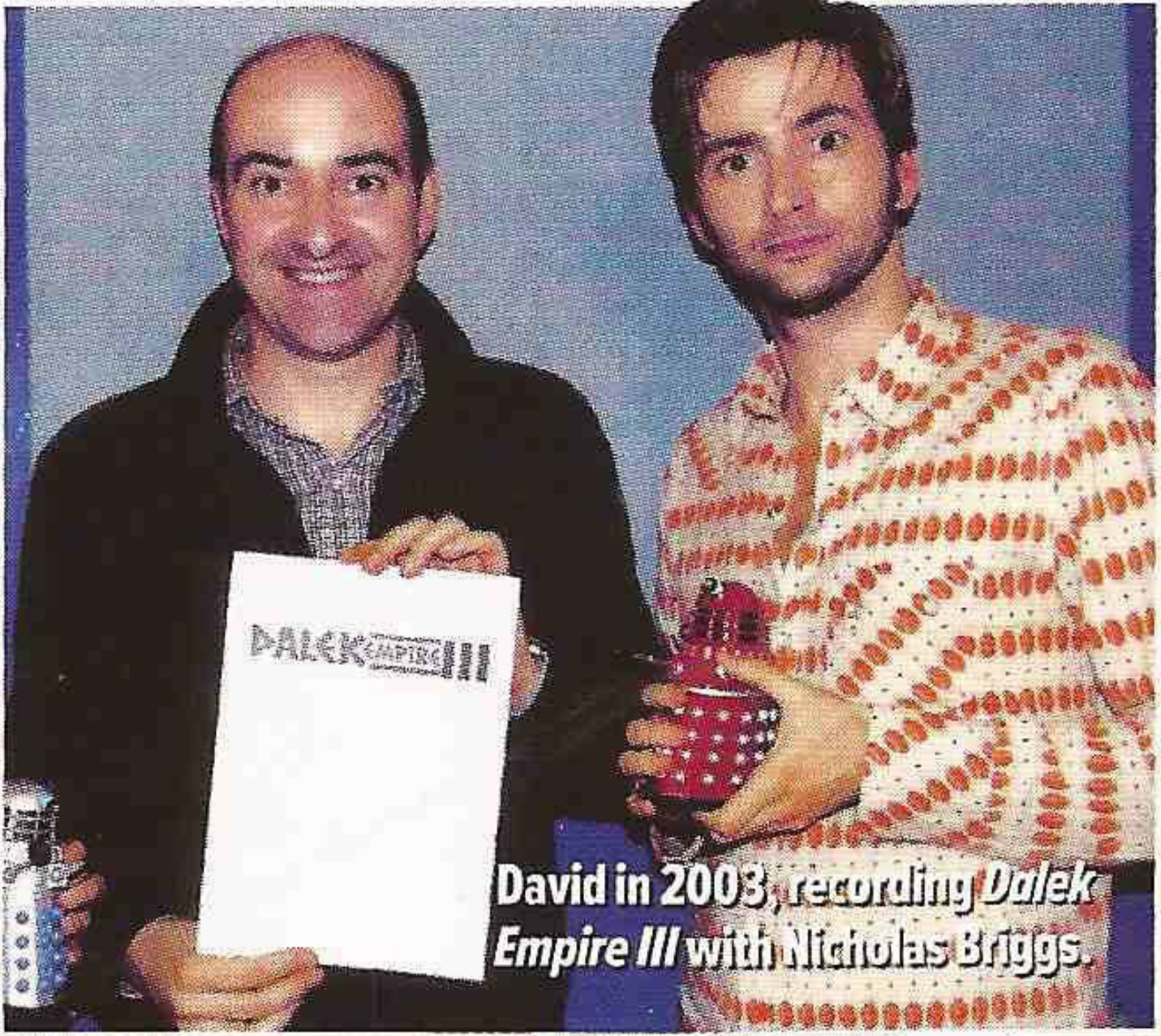
OK, so it wasn't quite that simple, but it's not that far from the truth.

By the start of 2005, before Christopher Eccleston's one and only series had even aired, Davies already knew that Eccleston planned to give up the role of the Doctor at the end of his run of 13 episodes. (As we all now know, the news of Eccleston's departure hit the newspapers following the broadcast of *Rose*, although Davies had hoped to keep secret his departure and the resulting regeneration. This was the first of many lessons Davies would learn about trying to keep secrets about the show!)

RadioTimes
DOCTOR WHO
Our sneak preview of the biggest TV event of the year!
SUPERVOLCANO
THE DEATH OF DAVID KELLY
Move over Darcy, it's...
CASANOVA
PLUS ...AND IT'S HELLO FROM US!

A few months prior to this, Davies had been working with David Tennant on BBC Three's *Casanova*, which was written by Davies and starred Tennant as the infamous young lover. Tennant's work in *Casanova* obviously made a big impression on Davies, and when the star arrived for his first day of filming, he asked Davies to be considered for a part in *Doctor Who*, which had by then begun production.

Tennant gladly describes himself as a fan of the show. Over the years leading up to the return of the series, he appeared in a number of *Doctor Who* audio dramas for Big Finish: *Colditz* (2001), *Sympathy for the Devil* (2003), *Exile* (2003), *Medicinal Purposes* (2004) and *Dalek Empire III* (2004). He also gave his voice to a part in the BBC's *Doctor Who* web series, *Scream of the Shalka* (2003), written by Paul Cornell. And with roles in the BBC One drama *Blackpool* (2004) and films such as *Bright Young Things* (2003) and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2005), his profile was growing – so, the pieces fit perfectly, leading executive producer Julie Gardner to ask him if he'd be interested in playing the Doctor. Initially incredulous at the idea, Tennant soon said yes, claiming since that he'd never have forgiven himself if he'd refused the offer. I'm not sure we'd have forgiven him either...



David in 2003, recording *Dalek Empire III* with Nicholas Briggs.

DOCTOR WHO II

The robot Santas get ready to spread their tidings of comfort and joy – with the aid of their bombastic brass!

Jackie questions Rose about the Doctor's new look. Rose is clearly upset by the change, but more concerned as to where her mum got a pair of men's pyjamas. While Jackie tries to explain her liaisons with Howard from the market, Rose hears the voice of Harriet Jones (Penelope Wilton) on the television and rushes to listen.

● We last met Harriet Jones in *Aliens of London/World War Three*, when she was still merely the MP for Flydale North and a relatively minor backbencher. Even then, the Ninth Doctor knew she was destined for greatness, and would one day be elected for three terms as Prime Minister, heralding "Britain's Golden Age." Jackie herself (who has been telling all her friends that her daughter has met PM Jones, which she did in *Aliens of London/World War Three*) says that people are using that phrase to refer to her time in power. But those three terms? Don't count your chickens...

Harriet is answering questions about the Guinevere 1 Space Probe, a British robotic probe on its way to Mars. Scientist Daniel Llewellyn (Daniel Evans) explains the probe in more detail.

● This isn't the first probe that the UK has sent to Mars. In *The Ambassadors of Death* (1970), the crews of the manned Mars Probes 6 and 7 made contact with a race of nameless, radioactive humanoids from – but not native to – the planet. (We never discover their name, but if they'd actually been called 'The Ambassadors of Death,' you can't imagine humanity being too happy to meet them.) So, why all the excitement over a robotic probe going where man has quite definitely gone before? It's entirely possible that, following the events of that story, a cover-up was mounted: General Carrington had plotted to expose the aliens (falsely) as evil invaders, live on TV, so maybe UNIT carried out a lot of PR work to convince the public that the whole thing had been a scam plotted by the unhinged general. Intriguingly, *The Christmas Invasion* and the evidence presented to humanity by its events, adds another wrinkle, as we'll see later. Is it possible that people have just wilfully forgotten about the aliens they've met in the past?

● Mars has a long history in *Doctor Who*. The planet is home to the Ice Warriors – who first turn up in *The Ice Warriors* (1967), then reappear in *The Seeds of Death* (1969), *The Curse of Peladon* (1972) and *The Monster of Peladon* (1974), along with countless spots in comics, books and audio dramas. The planet was also colonised by the Osirians, as revealed in *Pyramids of Mars* (1975). And a more ancient creature still called the planet home: the entity known as the Flood (*The Waters of Mars* (2009)). The Fendahl also visited the planet, as they fled the Time Lords's time loop trap (*Image of the Fendahl* (1977)).

Mickey and Rose decide to cancel their last-minute Christmas shopping trip...

BRITISH ROCKET GROUP

● In the shooting script for this episode, and in set decoration, the press conference is confirmed as being held at the British Rocket Group, an organisation which was originally dreamt up for the BBC's science-fiction serial *The Quatermass Experiment* (1953) – but which also gets a passing mention in *Remembrance of the Daleks* (1988).

In the depths of space, the Guinevere probe glides through the darkness – before colliding abruptly with what looks like an asteroid. But a hatch opens in the side of the rock, and the probe is sucked inside.

Later, Rose and Mickey wander the streets for some last-minute Christmas shopping. Rose is concerned still about the Doctor, but Mickey makes her promise to stop worrying about him. Across the street, Rose notices a brass quartet dressed as a group of Santa Clauses.

● The Santas are playing the Christmas carol *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* – or are they? Considering we're about to discover that the Santas are invaders from space, it's entirely possible that they're playing the famous Venusian lullaby, which – for some unknown reason – shares the same tune. The Doctor used the lullaby to calm the brutal beast Aggedor in *The Curse of Peladon* and *The Monster of Peladon*. Sing along, now, it's nearly Christmas...

Kokleda partha mennin klatch
Haroon haroon haroon
Kokleda sheena teerinatch
Haroon harun haroon...

In *The Dæmons* (1971), the Doctor explains that the first lines translate to: "Close your eyes, my darling. Well, three of them, at least."

Rose seems suspicious of the Santas – and she is right to be! One of them suddenly wields his trombone as a flamethrower, while the others open fire with their brass-band weaponry.

● The Santas are later revealed as opportunistic androids who fly around the galaxy in search of energy to fuel their robotic forms. They follow more powerful species wherever they go, in hopes of scavenging what they need. But, since they are merely robots, they are also susceptible to simple remote-control mechanisms, as we see in the following year's Christmas Special, *The Runaway Bride* (2006). In that story, the Empress of the Racnoss uses the Roboforms as her footsoldiers in her battle to revive her race.

Rose and Mickey grab a taxi to speed back to Jackie's flat. Rose is certain the Santas are after the Doctor. Meanwhile, at Jackie's, the Doctor exhales more golden energy...

Arriving at her mum's flat, Rose is desperate for them all to get far away – but then she notices a new Christmas tree in the corner of the room. Suddenly, the branches of the tree start to turn, spinning faster and faster, turning the tree into a razor-sharp whirling tornado. They barricade themselves inside the bedroom with the Doctor, and a panicked Rose places the sonic screwdriver in the Doctor's grip and whispers in his ear: "Help me." Suddenly, the Doctor revives and destroys the tree.

● Davies was determined that, even though it's a science-fiction adventure show, *Doctor Who*'s Christmas Specials should be undeniably Christmassy: hence the inclusion of the killer Christmas tree. In *The Runaway Bride*, the Roboforms use killer Christmas baubles. And, even though it eventually slipped back from its originally planned slot for Christmas Day 2009, *The Waters of Mars* was set to follow the pattern: "We'd done a couple of early drafts set on 25 December 2059," Davies explains. "Phil [Ford, his co-writer on the episode] had written a great sequence involving a metal Christmas tree, which the Doctor adapted into some clever thingammajig."

'Is it possible that people have wilfully *forgotten* the aliens that they've met in the past?'

On the balcony outside Jackie's flat, the Doctor confronts the Robot Santas. They teleport away. A worried Doctor describes them as "pilot fish".

● Pilot fish – as Mickey discovers when he investigates the term online – accompany sharks as they wander the ocean. The smaller fish feed off parasites living on the sharks' skin (which is why the sharks tolerate their presence, and don't simply eat them), and also gain the effective protection of the larger fish. (Dialogue cut in the final edit would have seen Mickey fill in more of this detail.)

The Doctor doubles over in pain. "I'm still regenerating, bursting with energy..." Another plume of golden energy escapes from his mouth, and the Doctor explains the Santas could "run their batteries off me for a couple of years." The Doctor warns that the pilot fish "mean that something is coming," before falling unconscious once more.

● Rose is worried, because now she can detect "just one heart beating." Here, the strength of the Time Lords' "binary vascular system" becomes clear: even though one heart has shut down, the other is still able to keep the Doctor alive, albeit terribly weakened.

On the TV, Daniel announces that the Guinevere probe has landed on Mars, and that the first pictures from the planet are about to be transmitted. Static fills the screen, clearing to reveal an alien face that roars at the camera. Within moments, the world's news services are filled with the pictures of the aliens.

At the Tower of London, Daniel is escorted into UNIT's underground base by Major Blake (Chu Omambala). Inside, he meets Harriet, who explains that they've put out a cover story claiming the alien pictures are a hoax.

● UNIT was introduced in *The Invasion* (1968) and went on to be a mainstay of the programme throughout the early 1970s, making many appearances after that – right up until *Battlefield* (1989). Since the series' return in 2005, the alien-fighting organisation had only made one (brief) appearance, in the closing moments of *Aliens of London*. They would go on to feature in *The Sound of Drums* (2007), *The Sontaran Stratagem/The Poison Sky* (2008), *Turn Left* (2008), *The Stolen Earth* (2008) and *Planet of the Dead* (2009).

● Harriet introduces herself to Daniel as "Harriet Jones, Prime Minister," and he responds "Well, yes, I know who you are," cuing a running joke for this episode. Every time Harriet introduces herself as such throughout *The Christmas Invasion*, she is greeted with the same response – even from the Sycorax. The joke returns along with Harriet in *The Stolen Earth*, although now she's the "former Prime Minister," and it's the Daleks offering the punchline.

● Chu Omambala originally auditioned for the role of the Sycorax leader, and he also tried out for the role of Mr Wagner in *School Reunion* (2006).

When the probe is revealed to be transmitting from somewhere above Earth, Daniel realises that the creatures might possibly not be Martians...

● "Of course not," Blake says. "Martians look completely different." It's unclear exactly what Blake thinks of when he hears the word 'Martians.' Could he be referring to the aliens of *The Ambassadors of Death*? (In which case, he's wrong to call them Martians.) The Ice Warriors' two attempted invasions of Earth haven't even happened yet: *The Seeds of Death* takes place a few decades after *The Christmas Invasion*, and *The Ice Warriors* even further into the future. It is, however, quite likely that the Third Doctor (who, by the time he worked as UNIT's scientific adviser, had already met the creatures twice) passed on information about key alien races to his employers – especially considering the relative proximity of the Ice Warrior threat.

Mickey checks the UNIT website, and discovers the spaceship is closing in on Earth.

● The Ninth Doctor gave Mickey the password for the UNIT site in World War Three. It's 'buffalo,' and they've obviously not changed it since!

● A scene cut from the final edit here would have put forward a theory as to the Doctor's new voice. "How can he change accents?" Rose asks. "Well, you pick up accents, don't you?" says Mickey. "Depending who you're with. Maybe he got it off you." (Having let Christopher Eccleston play the Ninth Doctor with his native Mancunian accent, Davies and Tennant agreed that Tennant should not use his own Scottish accent in the role of the Tenth Doctor.)

The Doctor recoils in pain, as his body recovers from his regeneration. Or maybe he's just shouting at Jackie to shut up – we're not sure.

The new Doctor (rude and not ginger) reassures Rose that he's still the same man she knows and loves...

The Christmas Invasion

◀ The aliens appear on a screen in the UNIT base, speaking in an unintelligible tongue. While UNIT gets its translation software to work, elsewhere, Rose is perturbed that she cannot understand what they are saying. She can normally understand all languages, thanks to the TARDIS, but she now realises that the Doctor must be "part of the circuit" too.

- "The TARDIS translates alien languages inside my head all the time, wherever I am," Rose says. The Ninth Doctor revealed this little trick of the TARDIS in *The End of the World* (2005).

Blake explains that the US President is demanding to take control of the situation, but Harriet refuses the request.

- "He's not my boss," Harriet says, "and he's certainly not turning this into a war." This seems a clear reference to the relation between then-current PM Tony Blair and his US counterpart George W Bush; Blair was seen by many to have been forced by Bush into a war against Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq.

Harriet wonders if anything has been heard from the Doctor. But there is no news. So, she asks Blake to get Torchwood ready for action...

- "I don't suppose we've had a Code 9?" Harriet asks. "No sign of the Doctor?" The 'Code 9 alert' was first mentioned in *Aliens of London*, and it's triggered whenever a mention of the Doctor or his TARDIS is detected by telephone wiretapping. (It's Jackie's panicked phone call to the 'Emergency Alien Hotline' about the Doctor that causes the earlier Code 9.)

> **'Will the Doctor be ginger one day? The *Battlefield* novelisation describes Merlin's red hair...'**

- Although this is the second mention of Torchwood in *Doctor Who* (see the Anne Droid's game show in *Bad Wolf* (2005) for the first), this is the first time we get a real sense of what the organisation is all about. Similar to UNIT, Torchwood would appear to gather up alien technology for the use of the British government. The mysterious organisation would become a running theme throughout the following series, with *Tooth and Claw* (2006) revealing the reasons behind its creation. Eventually, the shadowy Torchwood would be given its own spin-off show of the same name, featuring Captain Jack Harkness and Dr Toshiko Sato (first seen in *Aliens of London*).

Harriet's assistant Alex (Adam Garcia) reveals that he's translated the aliens' language. They are called Sycorax, and they have laid claim to Earth's mineral wealth, threatening "they will die" if the humans resist. Harriet returns a message of peace – but makes clear that they will fight back if necessary.

- Davies named this episode's aliens after a character in William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. The witch Sycorax (who we never see on stage) was the mother of the monstrous Caliban.

As dawn on Christmas Day rises over London, the Sycorax respond. The screen shows the Sycorax leader's hand glowing blue. A number of UNIT staff are suffused by the same blue light and, like zombies, start to march to the roof of the building. All around London, and the world, people are possessed by this blue light, marching silently away from their homes towards the roofs of the nearest tall building...

- We see Rome's Colossuem and a view of Paris rooftops: both these images were taken from the Getty Image Library, while the shot of the Cairo Hotel was taken from an episode of BBC Two's science documentary series *Horizon*. (Plans to include similar shots of Egypt's pyramids and the Sydney Harbour Bridge were dropped.)

The UNIT base receives reports that one third of the world's population is affected, all of them related by blood. Daniel reveals that the Guinevere probe held a sample of human blood, type A Positive – which is shared by all those controlled by the Sycorax. Harriet takes to the airwaves to send an emergency message to the nation, asking for the Doctor's help, if he is listening...

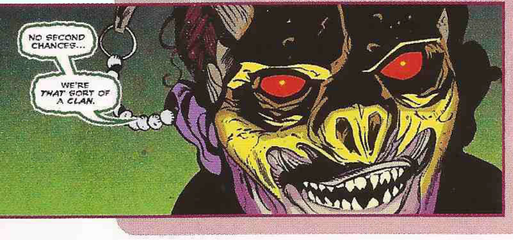
In the Tylers' flat, Rose bursts into tears as she watches over the unconscious form of the Doctor. As Jackie comforts her, there is a sudden explosion from outside. All around London, windows and concrete shatters as a sonic wave heralds the arrival of the Sycorax ship in Earth's atmosphere. The asteroid-like craft looms over the city, drifting silently over the Houses of Parliament...

- The iconic 'Big Ben' tower is seen here covered in scaffolding, the repairs still underway following its destruction in the Slitheen spaceship crash in *Aliens of London*.

Tribal Warfare!

ALTHOUGH THEY'VE YET TO MAKE ANOTHER appearance in the TV show, *The Christmas Invasion* isn't the only time the Doctor and the Sycorax have clashed. The aliens reappeared in the 2008 **Doctor Who Magazine** comic strip *The Widow's Curse* (Issues 395-398), in which the Doctor and Donna meet a tribe of female Sycorax who are out for revenge for the murder of their husbands in *The Christmas Invasion*. (The comic strip gives a name to the ill-fated Sycorax leader from the TV episode: Fadros Pallujikaa.)

They appear again in the US-published IDW *Doctor Who* comic, in a story called *Agent Provocateur* (2008), written by Gary Russell. In this story, we learn that an ancient tribe of Sycorax, the Astrophia tribe, died out during the Valhalla wars. (In a line cut from the final edit of *The Christmas Invasion*, the Sycorax leader claims, "We practice the forbidden arts. The lost rites of Astrophia.") It's also revealed in the reference work *Doctor Who Files: Sycorax* that the Sycorax seen in *The Christmas Invasion* were the Halvinor Tribe, and their asteroid-spaceship was named *The Fire Trap*.


NO SECOND CHANCES...
WE'RE THAT SORT OF A CLAN.

In need of a spin Doctor: Prime Minister Harriet Jones (Penelope Wilton) is in the hands of the Sycorax!

DAVID TENNANT
BILLIE PIPER
DOCTOR WHO

» Where else have I seen...?

PENELOPE WILTON

(1946-) Harriet Jones
Other *Doctor Who* appearances: *Aliens of London/World War Three* (2005); *The Stolen Earth* (2008)
TV appearances include: *CATS Eyes: Good as New* (1986) as Angela Lane; *Ever Decreasing Circles* (1984-1989) as Ann Bryce; *Talking Heads: Nights in the Gardens of Spain* (1998) as Rosemary; *Bob & Rose* (2001) as Monica Gossage; *Five Days* (2007) as Barbara Poole; *The Passion* (2008) as Mary; *Marple: They Do It With Mirrors* (2009) as Carrie Louise. Serrocold. Film appearances include: *Clockwise* (1986) as Pat; *Calendar Girls* (2003) as Ruth; *Shaun of the Dead* (2004) as Barbara.

SEAN GILDER

(1964-) Sycorax leader
TV appearances include: *Our Friends in the North* (1996) as PC Lukoschek; *Bugs: Gold Rush* (1996) as Kristo; *Hornblower* (1998-2003) as Styles; *Shameless* (2009) as Patrick Maguire.

ADAM GARCIA

(1973-) Alex
TV appearances include: *Agatha Christie's Marple: The Body in the Library* (2004) as Raymond Starr; *Britannia High* (2008) as Stephan; *The Flight of the Conchords* (2009) as Obnoxious Australian.
Stage appearances include: *Grease* (1997) as Doody; *Saturday Night Fever* (1998) as Tony Manero; *Wicked* (2006) as Fiyero.

DANIEL EVANS

(1973-) Daniel Llewellyn
TV appearances include: *Dramarama: A Spirited Performance* (1987); *Tomorrow La Scala!* (2002) as Jonny Atkins; *Spooks: Persephone* (2004) as Defence QC; *The Passion* (2008) as Matthew.
Film appearances include: *Y Mabinogi* (2003) as Manawyda.

The Sycorax make contact with Earth again, teleporting Harriet, Daniel, Blake and Alex aboard their ship. Inside its cavernous interior, they are greeted by the Sycorax leader (Sean Gilder).

● The interiors of the Sycorax spaceship were filmed at the Clearwell Caves in Gloucestershire. This location would be used again in *The Impossible Planet/The Satan Pit* (2006).

The leader demands their surrender, threatening to release the 'curse' on Earth, forcing those possessed to jump. Daniel and Blake try to reason with the Sycorax, but they are killed by a crack from the leader's energy whip. The leader makes Harriet an offer: if humanity surrenders, half of them will be sold into slavery; if she refuses, one third of humanity will die...

● Oops. UNIT needs some new top brass, then. Make way for Colonel Mace, who we'll meet in *The Sontaran Stratagem*.

Suddenly determined, Rose gets Mickey to help her carry the Doctor into the TARDIS, where she suggests they all hide. Jackie follows, offering everyone a cuppa from a thermos of tea. She dashes off to get the rest of the food...

● Way back in *The Mutants* (aka *The Daleks* (1963/64)), we learn that the TARDIS has its own food machine – so why doesn't Rose mention it to her mum? It's possible that the Ninth Doctor was so much the charmer, keen to show her all the universe has to offer, that he wined and dined Rose anywhere but the TARDIS during their time together. It's also possible (and more likely) that Rose was so panicked by the situation that she forgot all about it.

Mickey activates the TARDIS scanner, hoping to get news from outside, but the equipment's signal is detected by the Sycorax. Just as Jackie is returning to the ship, she watches helpless as it is teleported aboard the Sycorax ship.

Unaware they've moved, Rose steps outside to find Jackie – only to run into the Sycorax. They take her prisoner, and her screams alert Mickey, who rushes out after her, knocking over the thermos of tea as he goes. The tea drips into the workings of the TARDIS, hissing and spitting as it spills over the alien technology. Steam and smoke starts to rise from beneath the floor, and the Doctor takes a deep breath...

Assuming Rose to be the owner of the TARDIS, and therefore technologically advanced, the Sycorax leader asks her to speak for planet Earth.

● Rose's defiant speech references all sorts of things from her previous adventures. "Article 15 of the Shadow Proclamation" is first mentioned in *Rose* – and the Shadow Proclamation itself goes on to play a big role in *The Stolen Earth*. She also mentions the Slitheen, the Gelth, and the Mighty Jagrafess (he of the Holy Hadrojassic Maxarodenfoe, from *The Long Game* (2005)). She also throws in the Daleks, just in case.

Her speech is greeted by laughter from the Sycorax. Threatening her death, they start to gloat of their power – and, as the leader speaks, slowly, Rose and the others start to hear his words as English. Rose suddenly realises this can only mean one thing...

The doors of the TARDIS open to reveal the fully recovered Doctor. He disarms the leader, greets his friends warmly, then asks Rose, "How do I look?"

● "Am I... ginger?" asks the Doctor. "I wanted to be ginger, I've never been ginger." You still may be ginger one day, Doctor. *Battlefield* features messages from a future Doctor, posing as the wizard Merlin from the Arthurian court. The novelisation of this story mentions that Merlin has red hair.

The Sycorax leader (Sean Gilder) accepts the Doctor's challenge. *Fight!!!!!*

● Material cut from this scene sees the Doctor try to find a new catchphrase. When he hears that Harriet is now PM, he tries to say that the news is "Fantastic!", but the word – once the Ninth Doctor's favourite cry of approval – sticks in his throat. He tries out a number of alternatives: "Brilliant... Excellent... Superb... Marvellous... Molto bene..." But none of them seem right – especially not that last one!

The Sycorax leader demands to know who this newcomer is – but, as yet, the Doctor is not sure how to answer. He doesn't know what kind of person he is yet and, when he sees the big red button that controls the Sycorax's blood magic, he is drawn to it like a moth to the flame. He checks the button's housing, finding a small bowl of human blood and figuring out that the aliens are using Blood Control technology.

● The Doctor dips his finger into the bowl and tastes the liquid, immediately recognising the taste of human blood – and he can even tell that it's A Positive. We see this remarkable sense of taste again in *Planet of the Dead*, when the Doctor tastes the sand on San Helios and can detect the taste of dead bodies. Yum!

The Doctor slams his hand on the button, releasing the humans from the Sycorax's control. The leader threatens to bring in his armada to take Earth by force, but the Doctor halts his plans by challenging him to mortal combat. The Doctor will stand as Earth's champion, fighting for its future.

Each armed with massive broadswords, the combat begins, their swashbuckling taking them out onto a rocky platform outside the ship, miles above London. The leader forces the Doctor to the very edge, knocking him prone and slicing off the hand that holds the Doctor's sword.

● This is definitely not the last we'll see of the Doctor's severed hand. As an alien artefact, it was collected by Torchwood and eventually ended up in the care of Captain Jack, who hung on to it for a long time. We see it often throughout the first series of *Torchwood*: in the final episode, *End of Days* (2007), the jar of liquid, in which Jack keeps the hand, starts to bubble like mad – a sign of the return of the Doctor's TARDIS to Cardiff. Taking the jar with him, Jack races to rejoin the Doctor (as seen in *Utopia*), after which the hand stays with its original owner. Later, in *The Doctor's Daughter* (2008), the hand reacts in a similar bubbly fashion as the TARDIS homes in on a member of the Doctor's 'family'. And finally, in *Journey's End*, the Doctor uses the hand as a store for a massive amount of regenerative energy, aborting his own regeneration (triggered by a bolt from a Dalek's gunstick). The hand, charged with this energy and a little bit of Donna's DNA, later grew into a brand new, human version of the Doctor.

The Doctor is not perturbed, though. He's "still within the first 15 hours of my regeneration cycle, which means I've got just enough residual cellular energy to do this..." His hand magically regrows, and Rose throws him a new sword. The combat continues, and the Doctor knocks the leader to the ground.

The Doctor spares the leader's life in exchange for a promise to leave Earth. The leader agrees... ▶

THE FACT OF FICTION

◄ ● "Not bad for a man in his jim-jams," the Doctor crows. "Very Arthur Dent. Now, there was a nice man." Arthur Dent is the hero of Douglas Adams' *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, which has spanned radio series, novels, TV and film. The TV and film Arthurs (Simon Jones and Martin Freeman, respectively) both wore pyjamas for the role. Given that Oolon Colluphid exists in both the *Doctor Who* and *Hitchhiker's* universes (see *Destiny of the Daleks* (1979)), it's not impossible for the Doctor to have met the real Arthur Dent. In any case, Arthur does indeed seem to be a "nice man."

As the Doctor walks away from his foe, he finds a random satsuma in his dressing-gown pocket. Behind him, the leader springs to his feet and the Doctor throws the fruit at a switch on the wall. The section of rock beneath the leader's feet slides away, leaving him to fall to his death.

The Doctor addresses the assembled Sycorax, forbidding them from returning to Earth, telling them the planet is defended. They are all teleported back to London, along with the TARDIS, and they watch as the ship glides up through the sky, away from the planet.

As Jackie is reunited with her daughter, Harriet asks the Doctor about the other alien threats to humanity, worried at the Doctor's confirmation of the horrors that wait out there. Alex tells Harriet that Torchwood is finally ready, and Harriet gives the command to open fire on the Sycorax ship.

»FURTHER INFO

DVD

Series 2 Volume 1: The Christmas Invasion – New Earth

COMPANY 2|entertain
YEAR 2006
CAT NO BBCDVD 1960
AVAILABILITY Out now.

DVD BOX SET

The Complete Second Series

COMPANY 2|entertain
YEAR 2006
CAT NO BBCDVD 2122
AVAILABILITY Out now.

● Continuing the little tips of the hat to British political history, it's possible to view this as a comment on the sinking of the Belgrano, one of the darkest moments of the British's actions in the Falklands War. On 2 May 1982, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher agreed to a plan to attack the Argentine cruiser ARA General Belgrano as it moved into waters near the Falkland Islands, a remote British territory that had been invaded by Argentina earlier that year. Controversy surrounded the decision, with some reports suggesting that the Belgrano was moving away from British waters at the time. More pertinent to this story, just hours before the sinking, the Peruvian President had proposed a new peace plan to end the war – just as the Doctor presents the Sycorax with an ultimatum to stay away from Earth.

Beams of energy lance up from Earth, destroying the alien ship as it retreats. Furious, the Doctor confronts Harriet, accusing her of murder. She defends her actions, saying that the Sycorax would only have spread the word about Earth, and she cannot always rely on the Doctor being around.

The Doctor threatens to bring down Harriet's leadership with just six words. He walks over to Alex and whispers, "Don't you think she looks tired?" into his ear. The Doctor, Rose, Mickey and Jackie walk off in silence.

● It appears that the Doctor's plan was successful. We later see Harriet fending off journalists, all questioning her capability in the role of PM. In *The Sound of Drums*, we will learn that Harriet was later replaced in power by Harold Saxon – otherwise known as the Doctor's archenemy, the Master. Nice work, Doctor. (This also seems to be a rare occurrence of the Doctor changing established history. But, as *The Fires of Pompeii* (2008) and *The Waters of Mars* suggest, it's only certain, significant points in time that are totally immutable – so maybe the Ninth Doctor was wrong to think of Harriet's time in office as that much of a "Golden Age.")

● Again, there's a parallel between Harriet and Margaret Thatcher. As Thatcher's time in office drew to a close, there were reports that other MPs were whispering behind her back, commenting on how 'tired' she looked.

"Where next?" The Doctor and Rose are headed "that way..."

Inside the TARDIS, the Doctor rifles through the ship's wardrobe in search of his new outfit, finally settling on a brown pinstripe suit, blue converse, a smart pair of 'brainy specs', and a long, brown overcoat.

● This is the first time the Doctor has worn glasses since the Fifth Doctor popped on a pair in *Frontios* (1984). (A deleted scene from *Silver Nemesis* (1988) also saw the Seventh Doctor briefly wearing specs.)

● The TARDIS' wardrobe was raided by the newly regenerated Sixth and Seventh Doctors in *The Twin Dilemma* (1984) and *Time and the Rani* (1987), respectively. (We see flashes here of what might be the Seventh Doctor's trousers, and something that looks like the Fourth Doctor's scarf.) This is the first time we have seen the wardrobe since the series' return – and, indeed, this is the only time since then that we've seen any part of the TARDIS other than the control room.

● The song playing in this scene – *Song for Ten* – was specially written for the episode by the series' incidental music composer Murray Gold.

That scarf looks familiar...

The Doctor joins Rose, Jackie and Mickey for Christmas lunch. Outside, snow is falling – but the Doctor explains that it's actually ash from the destroyed Sycorax ship.

● "This is a brand new planet Earth," the Doctor claims. "No denying the existence of aliens now – everyone saw it." That may well be true, but throughout the following episodes we meet any number of Doubting Thomases, who still find it hard to believe in the existence of extraterrestrial life, let alone its numerous attacks on humanity. The prime example of this blinkered viewpoint comes with future companion Donna Noble, who, in *The Runaway Bride*, reveals that she slept through the Sycorax invasion because of a hangover (well, it *was* Christmas...) and missed the Battle of Canary Wharf (*Army of Ghosts*/*Doomsday* (2006)) because she was on a scuba-diving holiday in Spain. It seems that it took Davros and his grand plan to move the Earth halfway across the universe (in *The Stolen Earth*) to make humanity sit up and finally take notice.

Rose asks the Doctor what he's going to do now. He says he will continue his travels, and makes sure that Rose still wants to come with the 'new him'. Together, they gaze at the sky, planning the route to their next adventure...

● Their next stop is the applegrass-scented pastures of New Earth, where the Doctor and Rose encounter the wicked skin-on-a-stick Cassandra, last seen in *The End of the World*.

● Ever the fan, Tennant insisted his character be listed as 'The Doctor' on the closing credits, whereas Eccleston had been credited as 'Doctor Who'.

● In the original edit, this wasn't quite the 'happy ever after' ending we see here. Gazing up into the stars, Rose sighs, "I miss him." The Tenth Doctor, smiling back at her, replies, "So do I..."

THE DWM REVIEW

The worlds of *Doctor Who* in review: » Television » DVDs » Books » CDs » Toys » Merchandise and more!

PLUS A wealth of Christmas goodies reviewed!

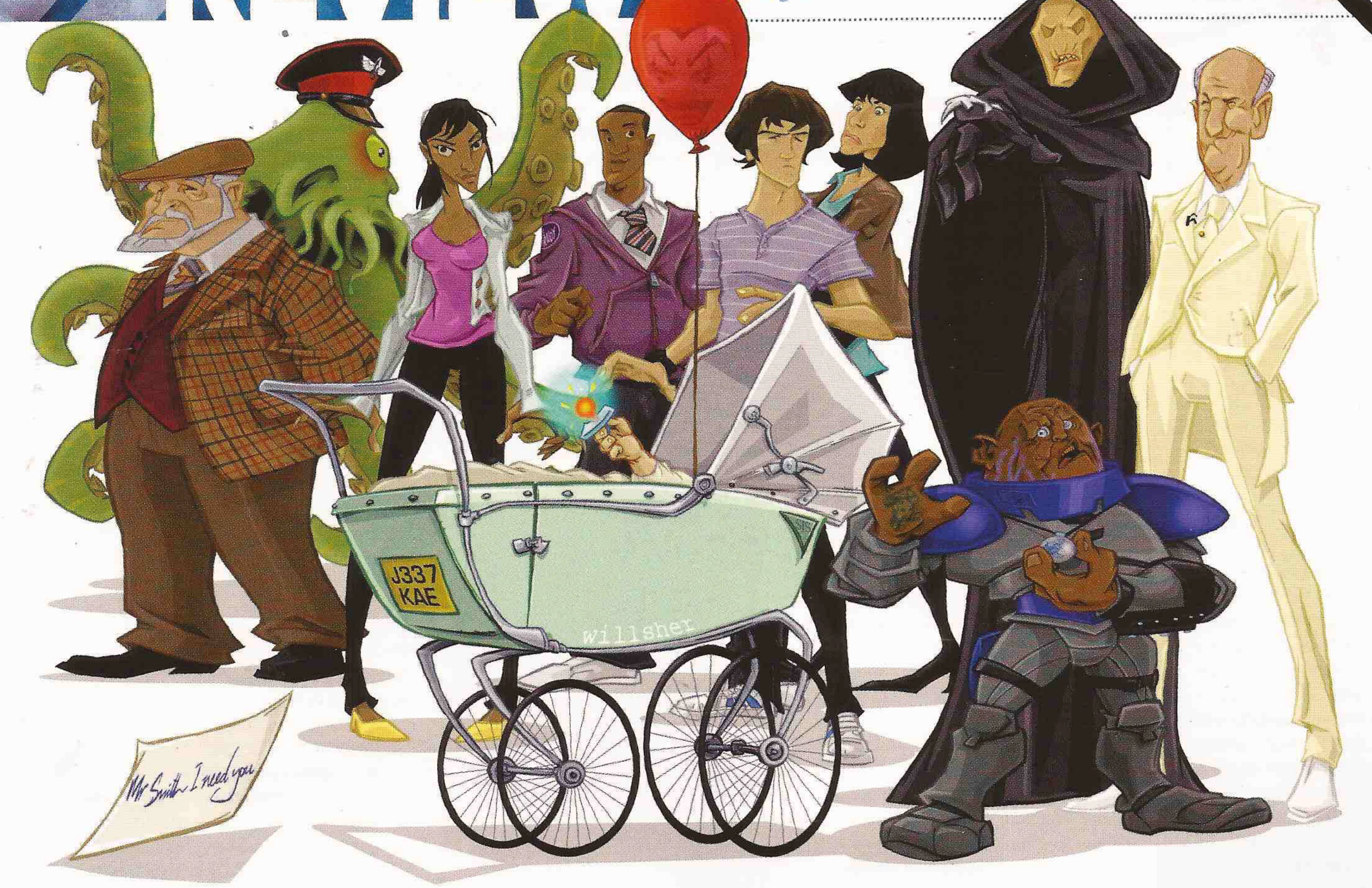


Illustration BEN WILLSHER

» The Sarah Jane Adventures Series Two

PICK OF THE MONTH!

DVD box set BBC Children's DVD
Starring Elisabeth Sladen **Written by** Phil Ford, Gareth Roberts, Joseph Lidster **Directed by** Joss Agnew, Michael Kerrigan, Graeme Harper **RRP** £19.56

IN AN ABANDONED LONDON Underground station lies a hi-tech lab... and nothing is happening. There aren't lava lamp shapes playing across the walls. No-one is teleporting in from a skirmish at a country house, where their sudden disappearance has resulted in a policeman falling into a lake. The lab screen isn't displaying a message from a space emissary demanding intervention at the Planet of Boys-In-Their-Pants. Outside, there's no alien invasion – fronted as a teen craze – sweeping Teddington Lock.

You see, the Tomorrow People aren't needed any more. It's taken 30 years to get here, but this box set confirms it. There's a new off-beam, hormonal team defending the Earth, and they're no saps. Homo superior better make way.

Granted, *SJA* is marketed as the Time Lord's mini-me, but it owes a debt to *The Tomorrow People*, Thames TV's barmy 1970s answer to *Doctor Who*. Like the school dodging TPs, Luke, Clyde, Rani and Maria live in a world where Mum and Dad are ancillary characters, authority figures so fatally lack in a sense of humour as to be laughable, while baddies like Sontaran puffball Kaagh come a cropper because they don't twig what's self-evident: Kids rule okay.

Still not with me? Let's play snap. Stentorian master of ceremonies John? Meet sometimes spiky Sarah Jane Smith. The TP's secret hi-tech lab? SJ's secret hi-tech attic! And as for over-sized biological super computer TIM...

All of this – need I say it – is a good thing. *The Tomorrow People* has been described as 'sci-fi with the brakes off'. Similarly, *SJA* is bright, lively, imaginative, sometimes daft and gloriously freewheeling. All of that's obvious in season opener *The Last Sontaran*, which sees Sarah Jane and the gang at their most archetypal. They know their roles and in some ways are a little too able. "Strange lights in the sky, a creepy sounding village and a radio telescope..." *oh yes, we know this one*. Clyde, in particular, is gifted with a fatal wit and wisecracks at Kaagh's expense ("Hey Bilbo!") mortally wounding the enemy.

Much of the two-parter is plain fun (they even let Kaagh go at the end, he's

▶

BBC
DVD
3 Disc Boxset
The Complete Second Series
The Sarah Jane Adventures
The Complete Second Series
BBC

ALSO INSIDE!

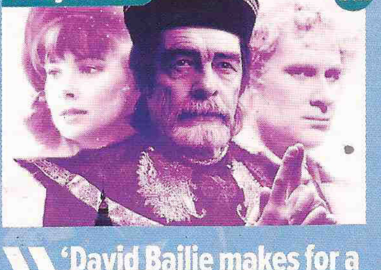
The Doctor Who Stories 71

» 'The stories may be slight, but many are ingenious...'

The Darksmith Legacy: The End of Time 71

» 'This finale is a simple but exciting runaround...'

The Nightmare Fair 72



» 'David Bailie makes for a fine Celestial Toymaker...'

All the latest *Doctor Who* DVDs, books and CDs reviewed...

The Darksmith Legacy: The Art of War

DOCTOR·WHO
BOOK 9
THE DARKSMITH LEGACY
THE ART OF WAR
MIKE TUCKER
www.thedarksmithlegacy.com

Paperback Novel Penguin
Featuring The Tenth Doctor
Written by Mike Tucker
RRP £4.99

THE DARKSMITH LEGACY SERIES has digressed a little of late, so it's good to see Book 9 getting back to the main story. Having tracked down the Darksmiths to contemporary Earth, the Doctor finally learns the identity of their mysterious clients – a war-obsessed race called the Krashoks, who plan to use the life-bringing properties of the Darksmiths' Eternity Crystal to raise their own dead and build a new empire. An attempt by the Doctor to sabotage the Krashoks' ship fails, however, when the Krashoks activate an emergency temporal shift that takes their ship back to the Middle Ages.

Mike Tucker gets the balance of his story just right. While it has all the frantic running about that has characterised most Darksmith instalments, it also reaches for something a little deeper. The Krashoks need the shelter of a castle in which they can repair their damaged warship, so to secure their stay they've promised to use the Crystal to resurrect its owner's dead wife. The deal doesn't turn out to be quite so straightforward when the Doctor insists that the Crystal only gives the illusion of life and what really comes back is little more than a mindless zombie.

The Krashoks make monstrously good villains. Aside from their love of weaponry, they're also a race that likes to cherry-pick the best bits from other species and bolt them onto their own form. The result is like the embodiment of a *Blue Peter* 'Design a Monster' competition, a shambolic mass of bits and pieces that you recognise from elsewhere. An early encounter sees one lumber on with the muscular arms and poison-tip darts of a Slitheen, while another will have *Brain of Morbius* fans chuckling when he announces that he has "the lungs of a Birostrop."

VANESSA BISHOP

so rubbish), but – and here's where the show differs from *The Tomorrow People* – there's also proper drama going on.

When Maria tells Sarah Jane she's leaving, it's our heroine who seems remote. "People always move on," she says bitterly. In this moment Sarah Jane is alien, even unlikeable. Brilliantly, it evokes a long life of loneliness. Sarah Jane is a rare older role model in our *Logan's Run* era of tyro television personalities, but while there's magic in the notion of a materteral character – who possesses a childlike belief in the unbelievable but also enjoys the independence and resources of adulthood – she's also someone who's truly lived.

The Day of the Clown ushers in Maria's replacement, Rani, and she's demonstrably equipped to take up the vacancy. Sensing a mystery, she's given a horribly overworked line, dodging brand names like a *Blue Peter* make: "Maybe you can ignore it with your MP3 players or your designer trainers, but I can't!" Thankfully, actress Anjli Mohindra transcends the material and Rani – although crafted to do so – easily charms her way in.

Meanwhile, this tale is becoming genuinely disturbing. One-man circus troupe Bradley Walsh plays Elijah Spellman/the Pied Piper/Odd Bob with a horrible combination of glassy-eyed dispassion and lip-smacking lasciviousness. The latter describes himself as "the clown who snatches children in the heartbeat their mother's back is turned." When he then lays out his plan to "chill the blood of a nation," you can't help feel that's a note from Phil Ford's original story outline slipped into the script.

Again, it's Clyde's sense of humour that neuters the threat. This time what plays like a reading from *Oh No! Not Another 1,000 Jokes for Kids* (by former Cyber Controller Michael Kilgarriff, natch) doesn't convince onscreen, and our young hero makes the tactical error of identifying himself as the show's comic relief. No-one likes Scrappy Doo.

In *Secrets of the Stars*, we're firmly back in *Tomorrow People* territory – an under-resourced baddy (with sidekick Cheryl on hand to tackle the admin) enslaving the populace via a craze for astrology. Russ Abbot's performance as Trueman is a bit of a madhouse. When we catch glimpses of the real man ("I'm a fraud... there's no power in the stars") his shoe-shuffling vulnerability is affecting, but as the amped up Trueman he gives it maximum power, rating '11' on the Servalan Scale ("I can channel the power of the *STAAARRRS!!!*").

This destabilising performance detracts from an inventive script, packed with deft touches. My favourite? Sarah Jane rushes into her attic: "Mr Smith, I need..." but deflates when she finds the computer already unhatched. Another? What initially appears as a stock cliffhanger resolution – Clyde snapped out of his trance by an appeal to his inner goodness – is later revealed as anything but.

Thankfully, the stars align for *The Mark of the Berserker*. In terms of plot, it's the lightest of the run – Clyde's estranged dad returns, is bewitched by an alien pendant, but gives it up thanks to, yep, an appeal to his inner goodness. It's also light on Sarah Jane, who's out of the way hunting some new kind of NHS super-bug (a three-eyed space-slug) in an unnamed hospital.

This is Daniel Anthony's story and he's gifted superb lines: "By the way, Dad, I'm not 16, I'm 15." Ultimately he proves Clyde Langer is much more than "the joker in the pack" and his final scene with Elisabeth Sladen is beautiful. Simply written and played, it lays out his vulnerability without diminishing him. "If it wasn't for you lot," he says, "I'd be weaker..."

Our favourite investigative journalist stops for a cuppa.

'As an older role model, Sarah Jane is someone who's truly lived...'

The parenting theme continues in *The Temptation of Sarah Jane Smith*. A sequel to Series One's *Whatever Happened to Sarah Jane?* it's not as conceptually challenging, but it's heroically elegiac for something airing before *Newsround*. Plus, there's a lot to be said for educating younger viewers in the extraordinary fact Sarah Jane actually *had* parents. It makes her relatable in a whole new way.

Sladen attacks the material with conviction, voice breaking as she wrestles with the notion of travelling in time to do a *Father's Day*, and prevent her parents' death. Yes, the dialogue ladles it on – "We'll always be there for you," say her mum and dad, not so much tempting fate as giving it a wedgie – but you can't deny the stark bravery of ending this tale on the note that, while Sarah Jane's adventures may be joyous, they can also bring "the worst things in the world."

Not the worst things in the world, but a lot of dodgy elements coalesce for the finale. It's proper that, in order to get itself some serious coverage in the mainstream press, *The Sarah Jane Adventures* offers up the odd stunt episode, but recalling the Brigadier, plus Kaagh, the Bane and Mrs Wormword results in an unwieldy and rather demented coda.

Kaagh does best out of the deal... mainly because he doesn't have much to live up to, and suits the role of slack-brained heavy. If ever there was a Sontaran who should have been played by the late Derek Deadman, this is it. Samantha Bond, meanwhile, has a ball as Wormwood, enjoying ridiculous lines such as "I despise flowers!", but she fast becomes a post-it note version of herself, evil for evil's sake.

With all these familial associations, it's unsurprising the Brig is treated like granddad. Nicholas Courtney is great barking out stuff about "space thuggery" and still sparkles in scenes with Elisabeth Sladen (he now refers to Sarah Jane by her Christian name – a warming touch) but he's treated with kid gloves throughout. When Mrs W renders our heroes unconscious, the gang all hit the floor, except for our old soldier who pops himself down in a comfy chair.

Granted, Courtney isn't as young as he was, but the Brig remains at his best when people are shooting at him. As it stands, our last vision of him is Sarah Jane fussily tidying his lapels while a car rolls up to take him home. This can't be how it ends.

So where next for *SJA*? Well, the immediate answer has just aired twice-weekly on BBC One. Now they've bagged the biggest catch of all – the Doctor – it's hard to think what crossover stunt is left. The Daleks are unlikely to have business at Bloomin' Lovely ("MY DELPHINIUM IS IMPARED! IT CANNOT SEED!") nor, God help us, the Master at Park Vale High ("Nothing can stop the General Collapse of Secondary Education!"). But here's an idea. Maybe the next meteor can land eight miles south of Ealing, rousing a cider-soused tinker as it crashes to Earth, who vows to give up the grog there and then. Meanwhile, a bobby on his bike careers into the Lock as a band of stack-booted super kids teleport in to investigate...

DVD Extras

As per the Series One box set, it's thin stuff. If you thrilled at episode synopses last time, rejoice. Notes on Series One *and* Two can be prized out of a file in that CG rendition of Sarah Jane's attic. Photos, slight video diaries, the cinema trailer, plus perfunctory biogs are also available.

In 'apropos of nothing' territory, there's a video montage of the ten Doctors set to the strains of the 1970s theme. When it culminates in the caption: 'Dr Who – Ten times better than anything else in the universe' you may agree with the sentiment... but 'Dr Who'? The old music? Summon the brand manager!

Elsewhere, a brief *Blue Peter* sequence sees Daniel Anthony, Tommy Knight and Anjli Mohindra join the presenters in their seemingly chalet-inspired basement to compete in a quiz. First prize is getting to feed lion cub Zara. Take a quiz on the DVD and there's an equally nourishing reward – a chance to see the Red Nose Day Special featuring Ronnie Corbett. A good night from him, guaranteed.

GRAHAM KIBBLE-WHITE

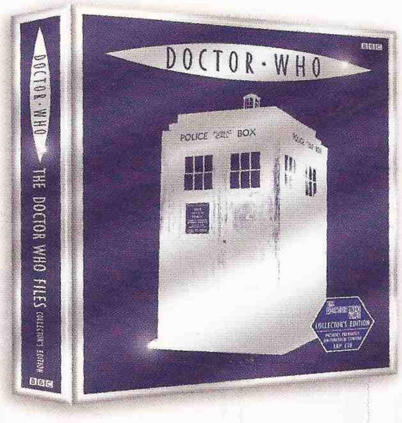
» The Doctor Who Files: Collector's Edition

Hardback Penguin
Written by Various **RRP** £9.99

THE ORIGINAL *DOCTOR WHO FILES* were published between 2006 and 2008, and this rather hefty *Collector's Edition* combines all 14 volumes, plus two never-before-seen Files on the Master and Donna.

The Files do a very good job covering their various characters and monsters, and any young person reading will certainly be as clued up about their subject as any older fan preferring to gain the same information from something more studious. The writing's straightforward, but rarely juvenile – the Empress of the Racnoss being described as 'a creepy crawly' perhaps being one occasion where it lets itself down.

The Files certainly benefit from being brought together. The back-up stories have been removed and put into a collection of their own (see *The Doctor Who Stories*) and its larger format and silver-blue box case make the presentation more swish. The 'Test Your Knowledge' sections aren't to my taste and I think the book would look better if these had gone, too – but you can't have everything.



As revised and updated books go, however, the new material here is rather more substantial than *The Doctor Who Stories* and *The Ultimate Monster Guide*. There's a sense that both the Master and Donna Files were prepared for individual release along with the rest of the series – so fortunately they stop short of giving anything away about the forthcoming Christmas Specials, in which both characters appear.

Naturally enough, some of the collection's early material now appears out of date – *File 2: Rose*, published in 2006, only takes the character up to *Rise of the Cybermen*, and similarly, *File 9: Martha* (2007) only goes up to *Utopia*. This situation is rectified in another new section, 'Travelling On', which covers what happened next, and takes the chance to update the files of characters who've returned and also the Dalek and Cybermen Files with Davros and the CyberKing.

These positives, though, should be put into perspective. Although each File gives a thorough account of its subject, this is essentially a Tenth Doctor volume, and a fairly selective one at that. File subjects like the Cybermen and the Ood seem to have been selected by the number of times they've appeared in the series, while stories that feature one-off aliens barely get a mention.

With a price tag of £30, this isn't exactly a cheap stocking-filler, and is rather a steep purchase for an audience that is likely to have bought a fair chunk of its material already. As attractive as this collection is to look at, and despite some very worthwhile additions, the ultimate guide book to the Russell T Davies era of *Doctor Who* is still waiting to be published... **VANESSA BISHOP**

» The Doctor Who Stories

Hardback Anthology Penguin
Written by Various **RRP** £9.99

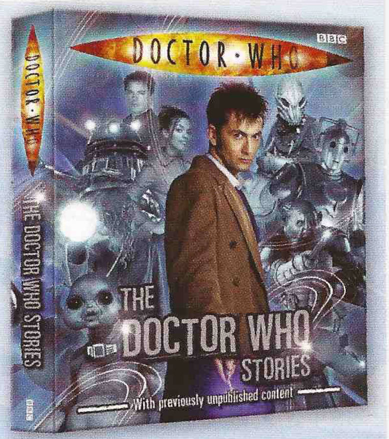
IF THERE WAS A PUBLISHING AWARD for the vaguest title, I'd fully expect to see this on the shortlist. With a shiny slip-case plastered with many of the Doctor's most familiar friends and foes, any uninformed buyer might reasonably assume this was a collection of TV novelisations, if indeed such things existed these days. In fact, these are the short stories that could be found at the back of *The Doctor Who Files*, the hard-backed, glossy, information-packed guides that racked up 14 different volumes.

Doctor Who publishing stepped up a gear with David Tennant's arrival in 2005, so his departure, timed with Christmas, means that this is the last chance for Tenth Doctor-shaped merchandise, which explains the sudden glut of reprints and compilations. Justin Richards has given us *The Ultimate Monster Guide*, his previous series-by-series books all bound in one volume; there's these Stories; and in another compilation, there's the fact-finding *Doctor Who Files* themselves.

The Doctor Who Stories has been given a thin layer of new material, courtesy of a new story called *Speech Day*, which features the Master in the guise of his human alter ego, Harold Saxon. Like most of the collection, it's far cleverer than the large print and shiny picture-book presentation might suggest. It tells Saxon's story from before he became Prime Minister, and how, as Secretary of State for Defence, he attended the centenary celebrations of Mildfields School to further his own false history as one of its best old boys and public speakers.

This prequel approach works for other subjects too. For example, the Dalek versus Mechonoid story *Birth of a Legend*, tells the story of the four Daleks that will ultimately become the Cult of Skaro. The Captain Jack Harkness story *Best Friends*, meanwhile, looks at his time stranded in the late 1800s – something that spin-off series *Torchwood* didn't do until Series Two, a year later.

There's no hiding the fact that these stories are slight, but you can't help admiring some of their ingenuity. K9 story *A Dog's Life* is set sometime prior to *School Reunion*, with Sarah Jane Smith unable to keep the dog in full working order. However, even left semi-dormant in a cardboard box, K9 still manages to thwart two burglars. Rose's story is told and presented in the form of a crumpled letter to her mum, while the Sycorax adventure *The Final Darkness* takes the events of *The Christmas Invasion* and plays them back from the point of view of a Sycorax scribe, via UNIT's 'Alien to English' translation software, so that the language is all of the "Sycorax strong! Sycorax rock!" variety.



The only downside of the collection stems from the fact that the *Doctor Who Files* came to an abrupt halt midway through 2008. Rose gets a story of her own, as does Martha, and even Mickey – but Donna only appears alongside the Doctor in a story about the Ood. Davros is another obvious omission. While the brand new Master story is very welcome, a little more new material would have helped to improve this collection.
VANESSA BISHOP

> **'The stories here are far cleverer than the large print might suggest...'**

» The Darksmith Legacy: The End of Time

DOCTOR · WHO
BBC
10
THE DARKSMITH LEGACY
THE END OF TIME
JUSTIN RICHARDS
www.thedarksmithlegacy.com

Paperback Novel Penguin
Featuring The Tenth Doctor
Written by Justin Richards
RRP £4.99

THE LAST *DARKSMITH* ADVENTURE ends the series with a blazing space battle set on an orbiting University known as the Space Brain. The Krashoks' plan to revive their dead is all but complete, bar one vital calculation – the Darksmiths' life-bringing Crystal needs to be 'calibrated' so that it only revives Krashoks. Working out that the Krashoks will be heading for the Space Brain to obtain the information, the Doctor arrives to find that the Eternity Crystal is ready for detonation...

The End of Time works well as the final instalment. With all the twists and turns of the legacy behind it, Justin Richards' story unfolds as a fairly simple, but exciting, runaround with the Doctor and co coming up with ever more resourceful ways to stop the Krashoks throwing the final lever. I've lost count over the saga just how many times the Doctor's swapped the Crystal for a fake one he's been carrying, and this ruse is used yet again – but hey, why not? The whole series has been building to the point of the Crystal's activation, so why shouldn't Richards milk the situation for all it's worth?

In terms of scale and ambition, *The Darksmith Legacy* has left other epic adventures, such as the Key to Time series, looking tame in comparison. It's been to the future, the present and the past, and packed in a breathless amount of jeopardy. The emphasis has always been on action rather than characterisation, and not all of the instalments have felt like they have much to do with the main story.

Whether on the Moon, under the sea or in 1895 Paris, this series has rarely been dull. If a follow-up book series is commissioned, it would certainly benefit from following *The Darksmith Legacy*'s lead. **VANESSA BISHOP**

Ringpullworld

Audio Drama Big Finish
Starring Mark Strickson
Writer Paul Magrs
RRP £8.99

IN A CHARACTERISTICALLY literary style, Paul Magrs gives us a *Companion Chronicle* that is entirely concerned with storytelling, unreliable narrators, and elliptical and tricksy endings. Playing with convention, universes within universes and the power of writing, this is half audio play, half academic exercise. It's pretty beguiling stuff, and continues to push these plays into directions that the regular, full-cast audio adventures rarely venture.

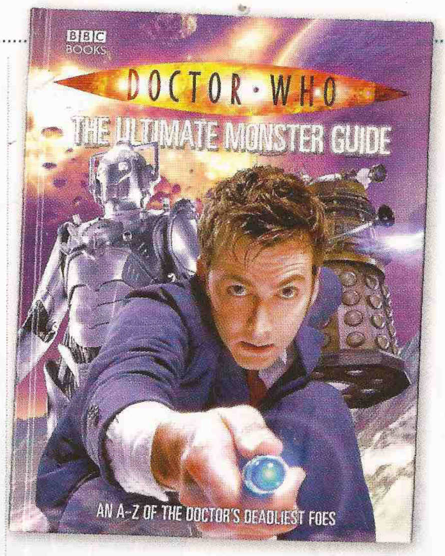
It's apt that Magrs has written this for Turlough, the most unreliable of all companions, constantly shifting and shifty. For this trip, he's joined by Huxley, a 'noveliser' who narrates and records Turlough's actions for posterity. As they defy the Doctor in an attempt to save the mysterious Ringpull universe, Huxley reflects on Turlough's ability to twist others' words against them, while Turlough quizzes Huxley's motives and if he knows more than he's letting on – whether his words are warping the world around him.

As a character piece, this is a neat encapsulation of Turlough's suspicious, questioning nature, and his need to make his own mistakes. Strickson gives a rather less edgy, nervy performance than we saw on TV where it's difficult to imagine Turlough going quite so far out on a limb for the sake of others. Nevertheless, it's a compelling performance, and one that brings other facets of the character than the harsh, wounded cynic that we're most familiar with.

With a nicely cosmic plot – featuring dark creatures from a twilight dimension – and a climax that holds to the play's principle of avoiding easy answers, this is a thoughtful, characterful and very entertaining piece. **MATT MICHAEL**

The Ultimate Monster Guide

Hardback BBC Books
Written by Justin Richards **RRP** £15.99



THE ULTIMATE MONSTER GUIDE makes the bold claim that it's 'the most comprehensive guide to the Doctor's enemies ever published' and that it covers 'most' of the Doctor's monstrous foes. So which is it? A definitive 'A-Z' or something more selective?

The truth is the latter, as the majority of *The Ultimate Monster Guide* is a remix of the monster books author Justin Richards has been writing since the show's revival in 2005. The Abzorbaloff material, then, comes from book three, 2007's *Creatures and Demons*, but with a few swapped pictures; the Axons from book two, 2006's *Aliens and Enemies*; and the Cybermen from the first book, 2005's *Monsters and Villains*, but with additions to take in the Cybus-Men stories of 2006 and the CyberKing from 2008's *The Next Doctor*. Sadly, the most inventive book of the series – 2008's *Starships and Spacestations*, in which Richards charts the development of space travel within the programme – doesn't really fit the format, so the material featured from this volume has been rewritten to fall in line with the style of the earlier books.

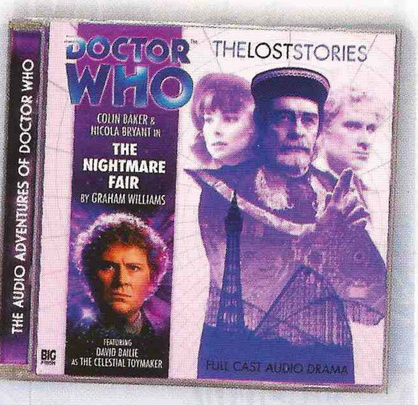
As a monster book for noughties *Doctor Who*, this is all fine and dandy. The information is colourfully presented and backed up with some concise 'behind the scenes' pieces, including some new ones on *Human Nature* and *Blink* looking at how they started out life as a novel and short story. It's also interesting to see how the series has caught up with the original material. 2005's *Monsters and Villains* covered the Master on a single page, but since the 2007 series made him such an important character again, the older Master stories now receive a much higher profile. The same goes for the Cybermen, where their story-by-story chronology features a few more facts in acknowledgement that, now they're firmly re-established in the series' mythology, the reader might be a bit more keen to find out more about them.

But for a book whose introduction talks of monsters from 'over 45 years of television time travel', this doesn't really cut the mustard. Richards has written a few new entries for creatures from the first 26 years of *Doctor Who* – the Metebelis Spiders and the K1 Robot, for example – but overall, the book is heavily weighted towards the series post-2005. For fans of the Ninth and Tenth Doctor, reading about monsters you know about is one thing, but turning the page to be faced with one you've never seen before is quite another. It's a vicarious thrill that most long-term fans have enjoyed down the years in various publications, so it's a shame this doesn't offer more material that might inspire further investigation.

Overall then, if you've only got one or two of Richards' previous books, *The Ultimate Monster Guide* is a useful catch-up. If you've got all four, it's worth considering whether your shelf needs more of the same. **VANESSA BISHOP**

The Nightmare Fair

Audio Drama Big Finish
Starring Colin Baker, Nicola Bryant, David Bailie
Written by Graham Williams **RRP** £14.99



SO HERE IT IS: THE AUDIO THAT ENDS the longest pregnant pause in history. *The Nightmare Fair* is the best-known story from the series that never was: not only has it been novelised, but there was a previous, unofficial audio adaptation a few years ago. This, though, is as close to the real deal as we're likely to get. So: 24 years on, was it worth the wait?

Superficially, the story should be a winner. There's a fantastic setting – Blackpool Pleasure Beach – and the opening scenes with the Sixth Doctor and Peri having a good time on the rides is lighter and simply more fun than anything we actually saw during Colin Baker's TV run. In its way, this is as much a new beginning as the opening four episodes of 1986's *The Trial of a Time Lord*, and in most ways a much more satisfying one. Equally, the return of an old villain, though a tired cliché by 1985, is handled decently: the Toymaker as a baddie is comprehensible without any real knowledge of his previous encounters with the Doctor – a superbeing that treats living creatures as toys, while a bit too *Star Trek* for my liking, is not as arcane as, say, the first of the Time Lords harnessing the power of an astronomical quirk or the Cybermen retconning an adventure from 18 years before.

As the villain of the piece, David Bailie is a fine substitute for Michael Gough, who played the eponymous character in 1965's *The Celestial Toymaker*. Bailie plays the part in a more avuncular manner, with little of the cold arrogance of Gough's original, and takes childish delight in the torments he devises. However, this is a façade, behind which is an angry, vengeful god, and Bailie allows just enough raw anger to seep through when the mask slips to convince us that he really is a dangerous adversary for the Doctor. It's harder to judge Baker and Bryant. This is definitely the softened Sixth Doctor of Big Finish's audios. Whether he would have been quite so cuddly on TV is open to question, so it's difficult to say whether this would have seemed as much of a departure from the abrasive Season 22 characterisation. Peri would definitely have benefited from her pairing with Kevin – like *Revelation of the Daleks*' DJ, he's a foil that brings out the best in her, and we see a side of her that was so often lacking when she and the Doctor grated on each others' nerves.

The problem with *The Nightmare Fair*, though, is the same as bugged *The Celestial Toymaker*: given the scope of the premise, the execution feels a bit ordinary. So, what begins as a big adventure for the most tasteless Doctor in the most tasteless location, gradually turns into lots of conversations in cells and corridors, and – instead of deadly musical chairs – a videogame climax that probably would have been a bit passé even in 1986.

As an audio adaptation, this is as good as *The Nightmare Fair* will ever be. It was written to be *watched*, and so loses something in translation. But as a tantalising glimpse of what might have been, it's unmissable. **MATT MICHAEL**

'David Bailie's Toymaker convinces us that he is a dangerous adversary...'

VISA MasterCard

www.scificollector.co.uk

TRAD
ENQUIRIES
WELCOM

STORES
ALSO AT:

79 STRAND LONDON WC2R ODE OPEN MON-SAT 9.30am-5.30pm
FREEPHONE ORDERLINE 0800 975 4581 FROM OVERSEAS 0044 207 836 2341 FAX 0207 240 5419

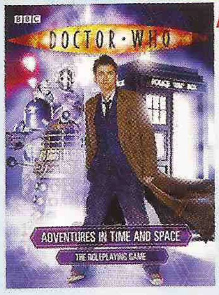
THE DOCTOR WHO EXHIBITION
THE RED DRAGON CENTRE
ATLANTIC WHARF CARDIFF
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 11.00 - 8PM

THE TELEVISION & MOVIE STORES - ALL OPEN 7 DAYS

2 MILLENNIUM PLAIN
NORWICH NR2 1TF
TEL: 01603 611 420

11 NICHOLSONS SHOPPING CENTRE
MAIDENHEAD, BERKS SL6 1LB
TEL: 01628 778100

111 SHENLEY ROA
BOREHAMWOOD WD6 1A
TEL: 0208 207 02


BBC
DOCTOR·WHO
ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE
THE ROLEPLAYING GAME

ADVENTURES IN TIME & SPACE ROLE PLAYING GAME

A FANTASTIC RPG WITH MASTERS & PLAYERS GUIDES, ADVENTURES BOOK & LOTS MORE!

SUPER CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN!
£39.99 POSTFREE

THE MASTER'S FOB WATCH METAL REPLICA

CARRY A COOL ICONIC STATEMENT IN YOUR POCKET!

DOCTOR·WHO
OFFICIAL EDITION BADGE PACK
YANA
BBC
PYRAMID

A TRULY STUNNING PIECE, FULLY OPERATIONAL WITH ILLUMINATING FACE & SUPPLIED WITH A HAND-NUMBERED LIMITED EDITION OF 2000 SPECIAL 'MASTERS' BADGE PACK!

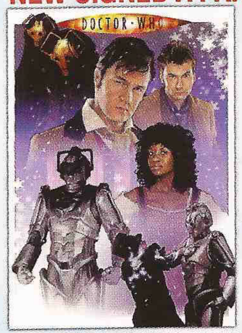
£44.99 + £5 P&P (BY SPECIAL DELIVERY)

SONIC SCREWDRIVER 1:1 MILLENNIUM FX PROP REPLIC

CORRECT IN EVERY MINUTE DETAIL AND A
LIMITED EDITION OF JUST 5000 WORLDWID
A TRUE COLLECTORS PIECE!

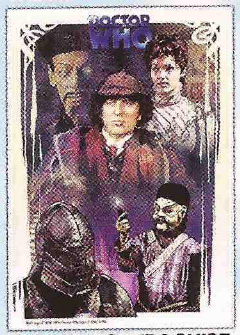
£249.99 POSTFREE

NEW SIGNED A4 ART PRINTS



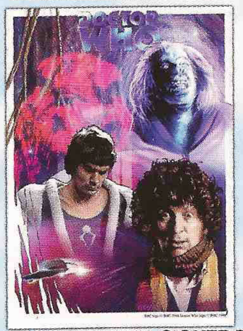
STUNNING ARTWORK BY FLETCH

THE NEXT DOCTOR SIGNED VELILE



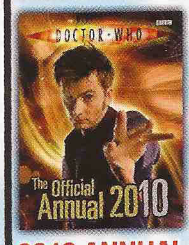
VERY LOW EDITION NUMBERS OF 150 OR LESS

TALONS SIGNED LOUISE



ALL PRICED AT £15 + £1 P&P EACH

PLANET OF EVIL SIGNED PRENTIS

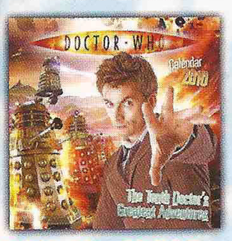

DOCTOR·WHO
BBC
The Official Annual 2010

2010 ANNUAL

£7.99 + £2 P&P

2010 CALENDAR

£7.99 + £2 P&P


DOCTOR·WHO
Calendar 2010
The Tenth Doctor's Greatest Adventures

BUY BOTH FOR £15.98 + £2 P&P

DOCTOR & JACKIE A4 PRINT

SIGNED CAMILLE £15 + £1 P&P

NEW TOM BAKER SIGNED 'LOST CACHE' PHOTOS £15 EACH + £1 P&P OR ALL 6, £80 POSTFREE

A

Tom Baker
POLICE BOX

B

Tom Baker Dr Who IV

C

D

E

F

NEW SIGNED STAMP COVE

THE FIRST 3 COVERS ARE A LIMITED EDIT
OF JUST 250, THE NEXT DOCTOR 500.

DOCTOR WHO
THE ARK IN SPACE

ARK IN SPACE SIGNED TOM - £15+£1P

Tom Baker
DOCTOR WHO
THE ROBOTS OF DE

ROBOTS OF DEATH SIGNED TOM - £15+£1

DOCTOR WHO
PLANET OF EVIL

PLANET OF EVIL SIGNED
PRENTIS HANCOCK - £15+£1P&P

DOCTOR·WHO
THE NEXT DOCTOR

THE NEXT DOCTOR
SIGNED VELILE - £15+£1P&P

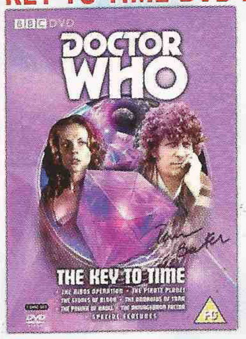
TOM BAKER STATUE

STUNNING DETAIL & JUST 500 EDITIONS WORLDWIDE

A LOVELY CENTREPIECE!

£120 POSTFREE

KEY TO TIME DVD BOXSET


BBC DVD
DOCTOR WHO
Tom Baker
THE KEY TO TIME
THE RIBOS OPERATION · THE PIRATE PLANET
THE STONES OF BLOOD · THE ANDROIDS OF TARA
THE POWER OF KROLL · THE ARMAGEDDON FACTOR
SPECIAL FEATURES
PG

THE LATEST DVD RELEASE SIGNED BY TOM BAKER

£79.99 POST FREE

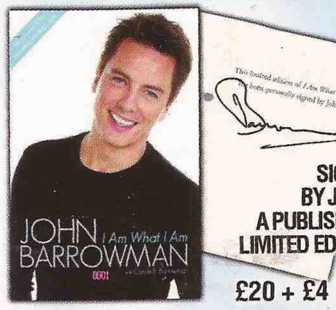
CYBER LOGO CUFFLINKS

NEW DESIGN JUST IN!

DOCTOR WHO
Doctor Who logo © BBC 1996
BBC logo © BBC 1996
www.scificollector.co.uk
BBC

£14.99 + £2 P&P

JOHN BARROWMAN'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY


JOHN BARROWMAN
I Am What I Am

SIG
BY J
A PUBLIS
LIMITED ED

£20 + £4

THE DWM REVIEW

All the latest *Doctor Who* action figures, and other Christmas stocking fillers reviewed...

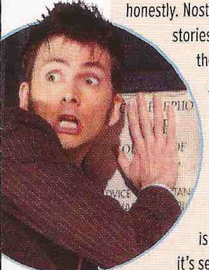
Annual 2010

Book Penguin
RRP £7.99

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS year's *Doctor Who Annual* and the last comes down to two stories transmitted in the interim: *The Next Doctor* and *Planet of the Dead*. This thin supply of new material means the Tenth Doctor's last *Annual* is a little muted. *Who is the Doctor?* takes the opportunity to tell us how each Doctor regenerated, though with the book published long before the broadcast of *The End of Time*, events of the Tenth Doctor's demise are obviously missing.

Most of the material is built around the companions – pieces on Rose, Martha, Donna and Jack offer snippets on what's considered to be their best adventures – but there's no getting around the fact that some of this subject matter is up to five years old now, and has naturally been covered before.

That said, you have to ask what the target audience expects from the *Doctor Who Annual* these days. If it's lots of pictures, facts and quizzes, then no doubt this will be just as successful as all the others. The *Which Alien Are You?* game is a hoot, particularly if you don't answer all the questions honestly. Nostalgia for the stories and artwork of the 60s and 70s *Annuals* is one thing, but they rarely felt in tune with the series as it actually *was*. This at least is *Doctor Who* as it's seen on television.



Which long-in-the-tooth 'old skool' fan wouldn't have loved to have opened one of the old *Annuals* to find the TARDIS interior with all its key points of interest marked out, or a spread on Time Lord technology recapping the capabilities of the sonic screwdriver or *Human Nature*'s fob-watch? All is not lost on the fiction front either, as two gaudy comic-strips see the Doctor outsmart both Space Pirates and hungry T-Rexes.

VANESSA BISHOP

CHRISTMAS
TOYS
SPECIAL!

Action figure toy range

Action Figures Character
Including The Doctor, Daleks, Sontarans, Sea Devils and many more **RRP** From £7.99

WITH THE NEWS THAT *DOCTOR WHO* would be off-air for much of 2009, it's perhaps understandable that retailers were a little reluctant to support new toys and merchandise – especially with the risk of being saddled with products that would look old-hat once the new Doctor and branding begin to appear on releases. Additionally, the collapse of Woolworths, one of the UK's biggest toy sellers, didn't inspire confidence in the industry. Despite this, fans of Character's action figure range have had much to be excited about this year, even if they've perhaps had to search harder for it.

Early this year, fans welcomed releases that made much of the collect-and-build element that gave us the K-1 Robot from 1974/5's *Robot* in 2008. Collectors were given the opportunity to pick up the pieces for a translucent Gelth display and an impressive Vespiform. However, to obtain all the pieces required for these new models necessitated buying figures that had already been available the previous year, but without the extra parts.

Luckily, unexpected surprises were lurking just around the corner, with the release of a wave of Cybermen figures dubbed 'Ages of Steel'. Four incarnations of the silver giants were represented from the cloth-faced originals of 1966's *The Tenth Planet* to their most recent appearance, *The Next Doctor*. *[For more on the Cybermen figures, see page opposite – Ed]*

Next up came a second Dalek collector set, consisting of the gold leader from 1972's *Day of the Daleks*, an Emperor guard from 1967's *The Evil of the Daleks* and the little-seen striped-skirt saucer pilot from 1964's *The Dalek Invasion of Earth*, each with the attention to detail that so characterised the first Dalek set. If that wasn't enough Dalek action for you, you could also pick up one of the bomber Daleks from *Destiny of the Daleks* in a Fourth Doctor Adventure Set that arrived in the summer. Also in the set was a release of the Season 12 Doctor in his burgundy corduroy jacket, with sonic screwdriver and a choice of heads, plus a Mummy from 1975's *Pyramids of Mars* (complete with canopic jar) and – best of all – a green Voc robot from 1977 *Robots of Death* that came with an alternative hand clutching a corpse marker and a sheet of transfers to give your Voc one of the number-plates seen in the story. (And it's clear someone has been busy with their freeze-frame as the sheet contains every possible variant seen on screen!)

The biggest toy releases this year also proved to be the most controversial. Thanks to the support of the Forbidden Planet chain in the UK and Underground Toys in the USA, the first three Doctors finally joined the range. The First Doctor came with a black Dalek from *The Dalek Invasion of Earth*, the Second with a *Tomb of the Cybermen*-style Cyberman and the Third – in a choice of costumes – came with a Sea Devil (from 1972's *The Sea Devils*), a Dalek from 1974's *Death to the Daleks* or a trio of giant maggots from 1973's *The Green Death*. The sculpture on each of these Doctors is nothing short of staggering – especially as the sculptors didn't have access to the extensive all-around photo sessions that they have for characters from the more recent series. The downside is that as limited edition releases, each Doctor costs £25 a pop – plus

postage, if you're unlucky enough not to live near a Forbidden Planet store. The First and Second Doctors also came in black-and-white variants. I'd imagine they were inspired by the action figures from the film version of Frank Miller's *Sin City*, but with such attractive full colour models already available, these monochromatic variants left me cold.

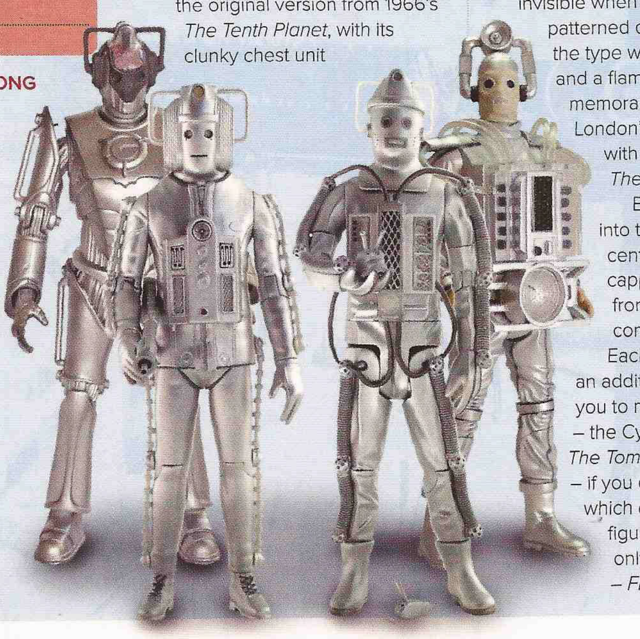
We were also treated to two additional limited edition variants of the Sixth Doctor: a 'regeneration' version from the winner of **DWM**'s *Mighty 200*, 1984's *The Caves of Androzani*, with Androzani mud smeared across his predecessor's jacket, and a *Real Time* version, depicting the Doctor in his lucky blue suit that he sported in the 2002 Big Finish/BBC online webcast. A new Fourth Doctor variant, in his long brown coat as seen in *Pyramids of Mars*, was also released, but appears to have sold out very swiftly through online sales alone.

As the year draws to a close, a trio of giftpacks exclusive to Tesco have hit the shelves. Themed around the 2005, 2006 and 2007 series, they contain mainly re-releases – although the 2007 set is, so far, the only way to get your hands on Korwin from *42* and a coatless Captain Jack from *Last of the Time Lords*. With the 'Jack-with-hat' and 'Jack-with-hand-in-a-jar' that featured in previous re-release waves, Jack is becoming the range's very own Malibu Stacey ('but he's got a new shirt!').

Given that one of each of the first three Doctors will set a buyer back £75, this was a pricey year to be a collector. Good then that the final products were of such high quality, although my pocket is certainly hoping the full return of the series in 2010 sees an end to the need for the exclusives, so future releases can be a lot more 'pocket money friendly'. **JIM SANGSTER**

» The Ages of Steel collection

Action Figures Character
Featuring The Cybermen
RRP £7.99 each (four to collect)



THE CYBERMEN HAVE A LONG history of invading bases through stealth, lurking in storage bays and waiting to pounce. So it's perhaps appropriate that this release of four Cybermen through the ages – grandly labelled 'The Ages of Steel' – appeared in shops earlier this year with little advance fanfare, yet made a great impact when there existence was revealed.

As we've come to expect from Character, these are impressive recreations of much-loved enemies. The biggest problem is working out which of the four beautifully sculptured figures is your favourite. Could it be the original version from 1966's *The Tenth Planet*, with its clunky chest unit and flesh-coloured hands? Perhaps its the model from 1967's *The Tomb of the Cybermen*, complete with two little Cybermats (guaranteed to be invisible when dropped onto a patterned carpet). Or what about the type with big ear muffs and a flamethrower gun that memorably emerged from London's sewers to battle with UNIT in 1968's *The Invasion*?

Bringing the collection into the twenty-first century, the black-capped Cyberleader from *The Next Doctor* completes the line-up. Each model comes with an additional piece, allowing you to make a fifth figure – the CyberController from *The Tomb of the Cybermen* – if you collect the set. But which one of all these figures is best? There's only one way to find out – *FIGHT!* **JIM SANGSTER**

» Alien Armies Trading Cards

Trading Card Game Panini
RRP From 60p for a pack of 6 cards

YOU MAY HAVE SEEN A SAMPLE OF these new trading cards on a recent issue of this very magazine, but to get the most out of the game you'll really need a starter pack and – most importantly – a friend who also has a starter pack and their own set of cards. There are 260 cards to collect, mainly based on characters and items from the Tenth Doctor's tenure. The standard selection comes mixed up with harder-to-find 'glitter foil', 'super foil' and the extra-special 'super foil emboss' cards that feature the ten Doctors and the 'Children of Time' companions from *Journey's End*. All of this is comprehensively explained in the rules and collector's binder that come in the starter pack, along with four packs of cards.

The game itself revolves around trumps, with players taking turns to compare the attack rating on one of their cards to the defence rating on the card of an opponent – highest wins. Additional Equipment cards like the TARDIS key and the Genesis Ark, also come into play to 'power up' your score. The instructions helpfully point out that you can play for fun or for 'keeps' – which means the most cunning way of increasing your stash is to play against someone who doesn't know the rules.

Doctor Who always was that most Reithian of BBC programmes, balancing pure entertainment with lofty aims towards being vaguely educational. So, while this is a game that relies as much on luck as skill, it's also a canny way of improving children's numeracy; to win, the player has to be able to work out at speed if using the 'Fob Watch' card to add 12 to Penny Carter's attack score might defeat Matron Casp's defence score (only to discover it's a draw and Casp wins on a tie-breaker play-off). Aspiring gamers and collectors should take note however – the Alien Armies cards will be available until the end of 2009 only. **JIM SANGSTER**

NEW
TRADING CARD GAME FROM PANINI
STARTER PACK
ONLY £4.99
DOCTOR·WHO
ALIEN ARMIES
TRADING CARD GAME
STARTER PACK INCLUDES:
COLLECTOR'S BINDER
GAME BOARD
260 CARDS TO COLLECT
TARDIS
6

» Time Squad

Action Figures Character
RRP £9.99 for a pack of five

FOR A TOY COLLECTOR, I'M A finicky soul. I like my toys to look realistic (or as realistic as you can look with hinged elbows), which is why I've never really taken to squished and cheery versions of popular figures.

You might have seen similar collections available for *Star Wars*, *Indiana Jones* and Marvel Superheroes. Now we *Doctor Who* fans, too, have been treated to similar contortions of Slitheen, Davros, a Pyrovile, the Doctor and the Daleks. The Sontaran and Weeping Angel at least make a fair go at a growl, but the Slitheen is just so cute... no! *Must resist!*

Character tried a collectable mini-range last year with its Micro-Universe. These cuter versions, with their limited articulation, might have more cross-over appeal for older fans, but my inner child does rejoice somewhat at being able to have Luke Skywalker, Spider-Man and a Cyberman all in the same scale. **JIM SANGSTER**

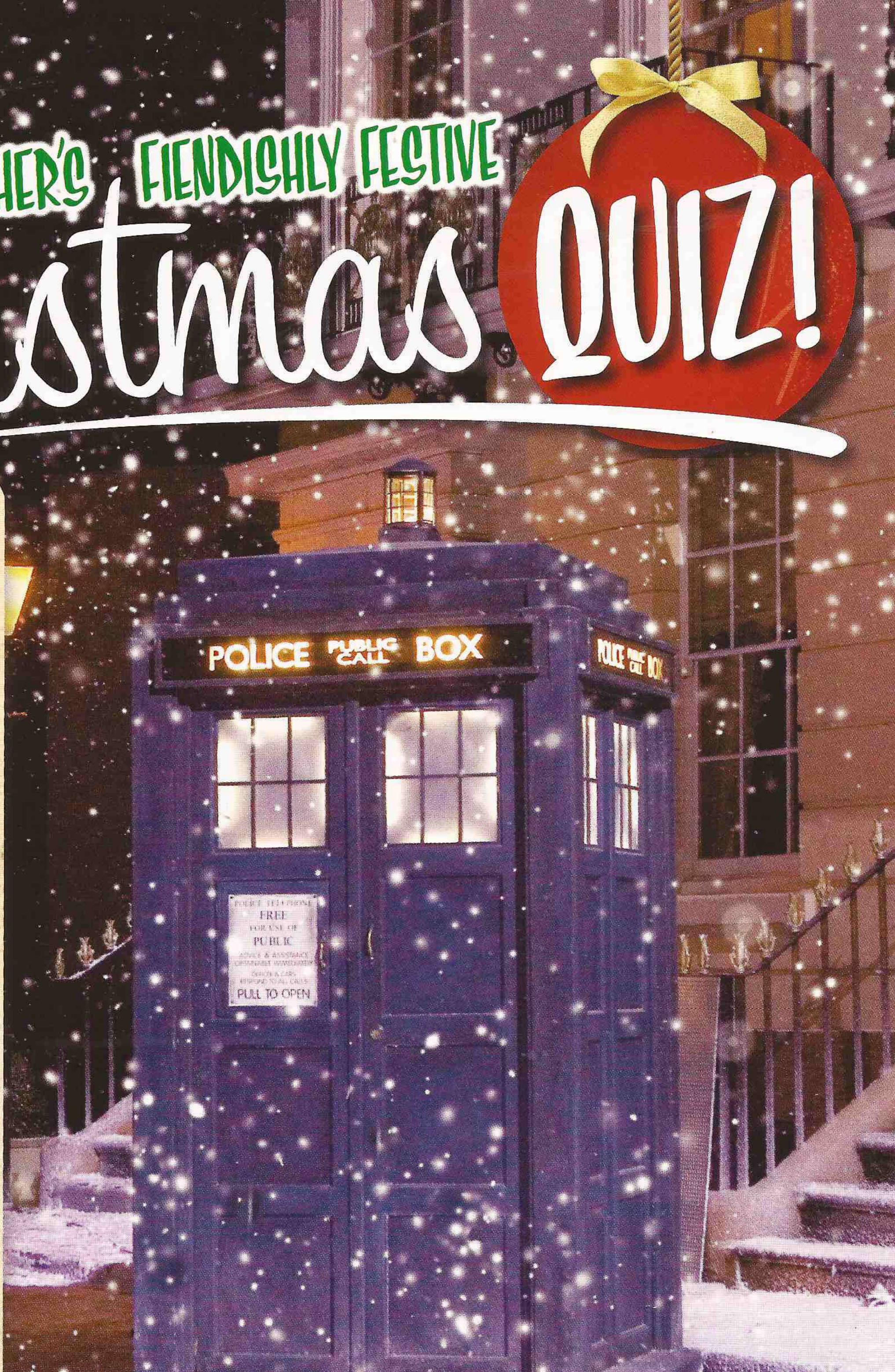
» Dalek Bubble Bath

Toiletries Grosvenor UK
RRP £5.99

ASIDE FROM A CLUTCH OF exciting adventures and great quotable dialogue, the *real* legacy of the Tenth Doctor, is how he inspired young fans to discover personal grooming. Just look at your average fan-about-town now, with their leather jackets and Converse trainers, maybe even a nice tie.

Grosvenor has already treated us to two other Daleks, plus a rather menacing Cyberman too, so the fetching Red Supreme will look great as he joins them lurking around your bath taps. The level of detail that's gone into the bottle is impressive; when the bubbles run out, you're left with an articulated figure that wouldn't shame the bathroom of any self-respecting fan. Admittedly, they're the sort of thing a well-meaning Aunty or work colleague would buy you if she knows not to risk a book or DVD you might already have, but frankly, if they didn't, you'd probably be tempted to get one yourself. **JIM SANGSTER**

THE WATCHER'S FIENDISHLY FESTIVE Christmas QUIZ!



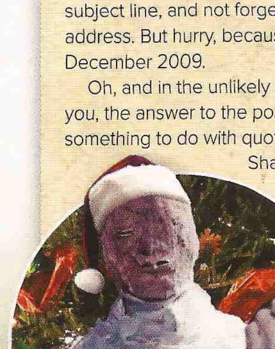
And so, my friends, the time draws near. A time of celebration and a time of sadness. A time of endings and a time of beginnings. A time of mistletoe and a time of wine. But if this ever-changing world in which we're livin' makes you give in and cry, then take heart – because, with the tedious inevitability of an unloved season, the Watcher's Christmas Quiz is here once again to gladden your heart, tease your brain and aggravate your epiglottis: it is an ever-fixed mark that looks on tempests and is never shaken. And just to get you started, what connects the previous sentence with *The Dæmons*, *The Armageddon Factor* and *The Shakespeare Code*? On second thoughts, that's ludicrously tenuous. Let's scrub it and move on.

Believe it or not, this year marks a decade of the Watcher's Christmas Quiz. Yes, you're casting your eye over a **DWM** tradition which began way back in 1999, three editors and 130 issues ago, at a time when things were a little quiet on the *Doctor Who* front, when Raxacoricofallapatorius was naught but a twinkle in Russell T Davies's eye, and when a 17-year-old schoolboy called Matt Smith was on the point of being invalided out of a career in professional football and was thinking about having a crack at acting instead. What a difference a decade makes, eh?

And so, as Ten becomes Eleven in more ways than one, it's time once again to look backwards and forwards and upwards and downwards and sideways, as your silly old Watcher deals out fifty fiendish questions to challenge your knowledge of *Doctor Who* old and new. Some of the answers appeared in these pages during 2009, while others will require a little more lateral thinking – but it'll be worth your while having a bash, because the five highest-scoring entries will be rewarded with a year's free **DWM** subscription. Simply send your answers to the usual address, clearly marked 'CHRISTMAS QUIZ' on your envelope or email subject line, and not forgetting to include your postal address. But hurry, because the closing date is 31 December 2009.

Oh, and in the unlikely event that it's still bugging you, the answer to the poser in the first paragraph has something to do with quotations by, in reverse order, Shakespeare, Drax and the chap with Wings. If nothing else, I can promise that none of the following questions will be anywhere near as stupid as that one...

And a very Merry Christmas to all of you at home!



The Watcher

CONNECTIONS

What connects the following? (If you need a bit of help, you can find some extra clues upside-down in the adjacent box.)

1 *The Daleks*, *The Daleks' Master Plan*, *The Highlanders*, *The Enemy of the World*, *The Krotons*, *The Three Doctors*, *The Time Warrior*, *Robot*, *The Power of Kroll*, *The Horns of Nimon*, *The Greatest Show in the Galaxy*, *The End of Time*, and no other stories?

2 Steven, Polly, Jamie, the Brigadier, the Third and Fourth Doctors, the First Romana, Rose, Captain Jack, and no other regular characters?

3 Ian, Barbara, Steven, Dodo, Jamie, the Fourth, Seventh and Tenth Doctors, the First Romana, and no other regular characters?

4 Harry Sullivan, K9 Mark II, and no other companions?

5 Susan, Tegan, Ace, Donna, and no other companions?

Some clues – if you need them!

1 *It's all a matter of timing.*

2 *Steven, Polly, Romana and Captain Jack all did it in 2009.*

3 *Ian, Barbara and Dodo do it off-screen; the others do it in full view.*

4 *Don't expect the answer to appear straight away.*

5 *But not Mickey (strictly speaking), and not Rose (despite what Jackie initially believes).*

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Give or take the occasional 'Aaargh', the following are the last words of which doomed characters from the adventures of the Tenth Doctor?

6 "He's the only one who can stop them."
7 "I'm going home, mate!"
8 "Spare a penny, sir?"
9 "They'll buy you time – now run!"
10 "I shall return later."

FAMOUS FIRST WORDS

Which Tenth Doctor episodes begin with the following words?

11 "Positions!"
12 "Salutations!"
13 "We are under attack!"
14 "We're fine!"
15 "What the hell's it doing?"

FAMOUS FIRST WORDS II

Time to open up the whole wide history of *Doctor Who*. The following are the very first words spoken on screen by which of the Doctor's companions?

16 "You're up early. What's happening?"
17 "Was all that nonsense out there really necessary?"
18 "This the patient, sir?"
19 "Are you real?"
20 "Bye!"

POPULAR CULTURE

21 Who, during the Tenth Doctor's adventures, quotes or misquotes **(a)** William Wordsworth; **(b)** Christina Rossetti; **(c)** Derek McCulloch; **(d)** Neville Chamberlain? (And for a bonus point, who paraphrases the same Neville Chamberlain quotation in a Third Doctor story?)
22 We know all about the scary monsters and super creeps of Bowie Base One, but can you name **(a)** a story in which we hear David Bowie, and **(b)** a story in which we see a David Bowie T-shirt?
23 Name **(a)** two stories in which we see Elton John, and **(b)** two other stories which allude to him in passing.
24 Name three 1970s stories which contain verbal or visual references to Batman.
25 Which Doctors have appeared at London's National Theatre in **(a)** *The Pied Piper*; **(b)** *What the Butler Saw*; **(c)** *Mourning Becomes Electra*; **(d)** *The Travails of Sancho Panza*; **(e)** *The History Boys*?

HEALTH AND SAFETY

You want trivia? I'll give you trivia. In which stories do we see posters or signs imparting the following helpful information?

26 'It is forbidden to dump bodies into the river'.
27 'Only you could save my life'.
28 'Have you got your oxymask?'
29 'Wash & dry your hands then monitor'.
30 'You can't scrub your lungs clean'.

QUOTES OF THE YEAR

Which interviewees told DWM during 2009:

31 "I don't particularly go for sci-fi. It's not my thing."
32 "I've got a hell of a lot to learn about being an actor, that's for sure."
33 "I don't want to compare myself to the Messiah."
34 "I really like my body and it's very well proportioned."
35 "It's lovely, actually, the lattice-work on my bum!"
36 "They're quite spongy, so you can put one in your mouth, which I took quite a fondness to."
37 "People think I'm posh because of my accent, but my real accent is a Yorkshire one."
38 "I had to climb ten feet in the air, with four-inch heels on. It was deeply alarming."
39 "You're asking the right questions, and I'm offering absolutely brilliant answers!"
40 "A lot of people would think that Jesus was a terrible show-off. All that walking on water stuff, and the great big picnic."

ANAGRAMS

And finally, by way of tribute to the ten wonderful Doctors we've celebrated during the course of this year, unscramble the following *Doctor Who* story titles. But be warned: the stories don't necessarily match the Doctor in question...

41 Hartnell fools a worn eiderdown.
42 Pat spies teacher.
43 Pertwee for hairdos.
44 Tom Baker? Hefty accent!
45 The Davison era? Oaken filth!
46 Colin yaps once.
47 McCoy decided to thresh the plant.
48 Paul remixes zen threat.
49 Eccleston matched thyroid depth.
50 Hip Dr Who? Cause: Tennant.

Oh, hang about. There's someone knocking at the police box door. And so, for a bonus point...

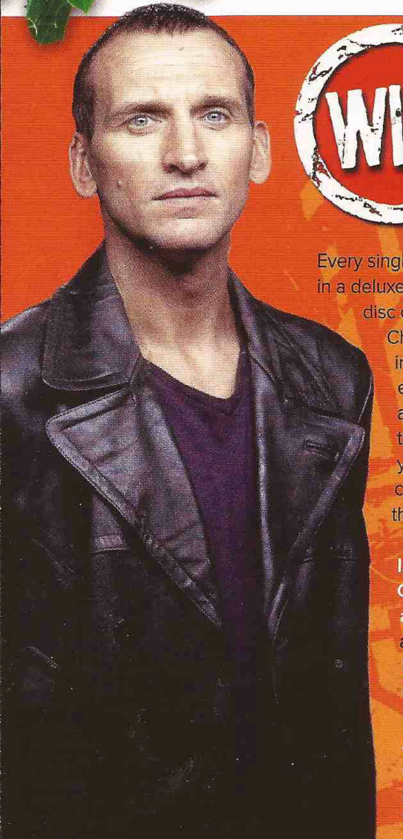
51 Fade out, old person: Matt Smith's due to flourish!

... and that's your lot. Happy New Year, and see you in 2010!

UM... ER... OH, I'M USUALLY SO *GOOD* AT *QUIZZES*...

THE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY!

Books! CDs! DVD box sets! They could all be coming your way – just by answering a few simple questions...



WIN! Four years' worth of *Doctor Who*!

Every single episode of *Doctor Who* from *Rose* through to *Journey's End* is now available in a deluxe *Series 1-4* DVD box set from 2entertain, priced just £89.99. This massive 23-disc collection includes the complete adventures of the Ninth Doctor as played by Christopher Eccleston, and all the Tenth Doctor stories from his first appearance in *The Christmas Invasion* up to his momentous encounter with Davros at the end of the 2008 series. And if that's wasn't enough, there are plenty of extra features, too! We've **TWO** of these magnificent sets to give away, so if you'd like to win one (and who wouldn't!), cast your mind back four years and give us the correct answer to this...

In the trailer to the 2005 series starring Christopher Eccleston, what did the Doctor ask the viewers?

a) Do you wanna come with me?

b) Do you wanna go with her?

c) Do you wanna cup o'tea and a slice o'cake?

Just call **09011 542 221** if you want to enter, or enter by post, putting these words full of promise at the start of the **DWM** address: "THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME!"

DOCTOR·WHO
SERIES 1–4 BOXSET
DOCTOR·WHO
SERIES 1–4 BOXSET
BBC DVD

WIN! All of Torchwood in a DVD box set!

Both series One and Two of *Torchwood*, and 2009's five-part adventure *Torchwood: Children of Earth*, are now available together in a DVD box set for the first time. This hugely successful spin-off from *Doctor Who* stars John Barrowman as Captain Jack Harkness, Eve Myles as Gwen Cooper, Gareth David-Lloyd as Ianto Jones, Burn Gorman as Owen Harper and Naoko Mori as Toshiko Sato. The generous people at 2entertain have set aside **TWO** sets for us to give away to lucky readers as prizes, so to give yourself a chance of winning, answer this beastly question:

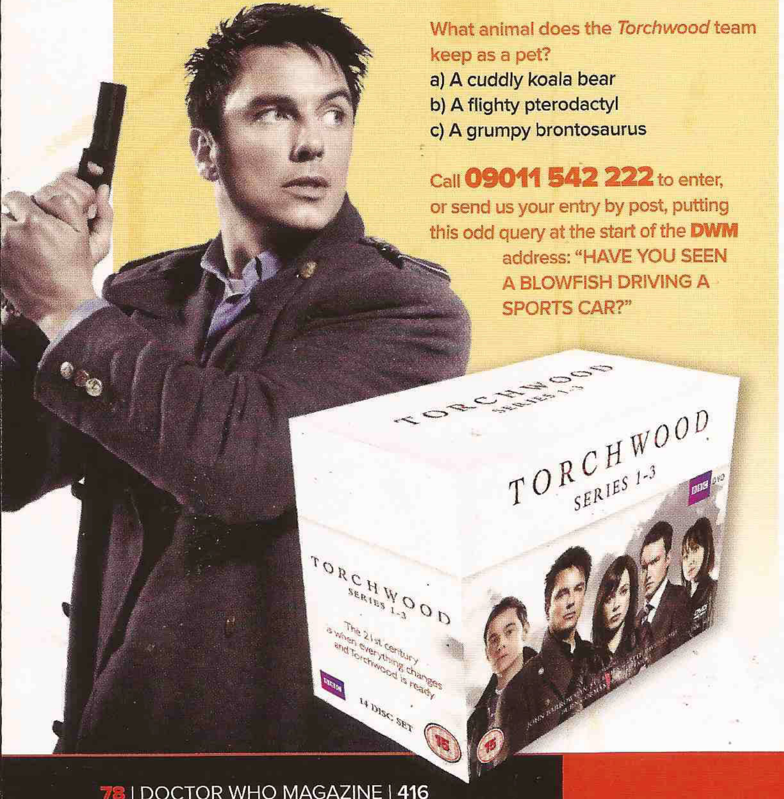
What animal does the *Torchwood* team keep as a pet?

a) A cuddly koala bear

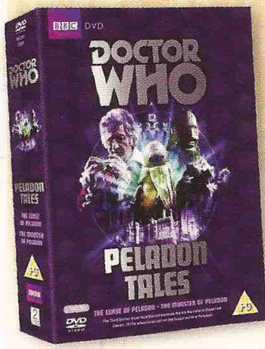
b) A flighty pterodactyl

c) A grumpy brontosaurus

Call **09011 542 222** to enter, or send us your entry by post, putting this odd query at the start of the **DWM** address: "HAVE YOU SEEN A BLOWFISH DRIVING A SPORTS CAR?"



WIN! Peladon Tales on DVD!



The entire Peladon saga, comprising the Third Doctor stories *The Curse of Peladon* and *The Monster of Peladon*, is brought together in a brand new, extras-packed, DVD box set, available to buy on 4 January, priced £29.99. Thanks to 2entertain we have **FIVE** copies to give away to readers who can answer this gender-bending question:

What's the name of the hermaphrodite hexapod that the Doctor meets on Peladon?

a) Alpha Centauri

b) Alphabetti Spaghetti

c) Moonbase Alpha

To enter, call **09011 542 223**, or by post, putting this surprising revelation at the start of the **DWM** address: "SHE IS AN IT!"

WIN! The Key to Time on DVD!

The Key to Time box set contains six linked stories from 1978/79 starring Tom Baker as the Fourth Doctor and Mary Tamm and Romana. Previously released as a long-deleted limited edition box set, all 26 episodes plus extras are available once more in a seven-disc DVD collection priced £69.99. Thanks to the generosity of 2entertain. **FIVE** lucky readers can bag themselves a copy, if they can answer this correctly:

What was the second segment of the Key to Time disguised as?

a) The barren planet Callufrax

b) The evil warlike Sycorax

c) The little town of Halifax

To enter, call **09011 542 224**, or by post, putting this terrifying boast at the start of the **DWM** address: "I POSSESS THE KEY TO TIME!"

DOCTOR WHO
THE KEY TO TIME

WIN! Mission to Magnus CD!

Mission to Magnus by Philip Martin, a story that was planned for the TV series in 1986 but never made, has been adapted for audio. Starring Colin Baker as the Sixth Doctor and Nicola Bryant as Peri, it's available this month to download for £12.99 and on CD priced £14.99. Thanks to Big Finish, we've **FIVE** CD copies to give away to lucky readers who can provide us with the answer to this worrying question:

THE AUDIO ADVENTURES OF DOCTOR WHO
DOCTOR WHO
THELOSTSTORIES
COLIN BAKER & NICOLA BRYANT IN
MISSION TO MAGNUS
BY PHILIP MARTIN
FEATURING NABIL SHABAN AS SIL & NICHOLAS BRIGGS AS VEDIKAEL
BIG
FULL CAST AUDIO DRAMA

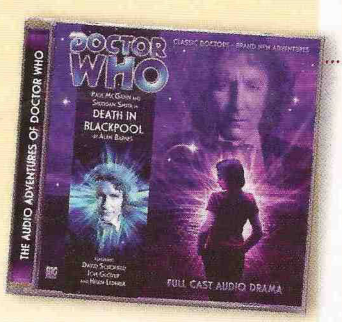
Which monsters feature in *Mission to Magnus*?

a) The Ice Warriors
b) The Wrarth Warriors
c) The Sheep Worriers

Call 09011 542 225 to enter, or by post, with these sibilant sounds at the start of the DWM address: "SSSS-SSSS-SSSS!"

WIN! Death in Blackpool CD!

Paul McGann stars as the Eighth Doctor in *Death in Blackpool*, a new audio drama released this month on CD and to download. This Big Finish production features Sheridan Smith in her last appearance as the Doctor's companion. **FIVE** lucky readers will be able to own a copy of the CD, worth £10.99, once they have correctly answered this question:


THE AUDIO ADVENTURES OF DOCTOR WHO
DOCTOR WHO
CLASSIC DOCTORS · BRAND NEW ADVENTURES
PAUL McGANN AND SHERIDAN SMITH IN
DEATH IN BLACKPOOL
BY ALAN BARNES
BIG
FULL CAST AUDIO DRAMA

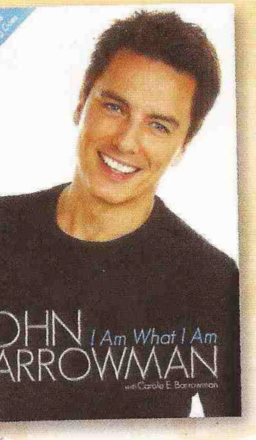
What is the name of Sheridan Smith's character in the *Doctor Who* audio adventures?

a) Lucie Miller
b) Dr Jonathan Miller
c) Windy Miller

To enter, call 09011 542 226, or enter by post, remembering to put these rather sweet words at the start of the DWM address: "MY LITTLE STICK OF BLACKPOOL ROCK!"

WIN! John Barrowman's autobiography!

The second volume of John Barrowman's autobiography, *I Am What I Am* is available now in hardback priced £20. This revealing new book brings John's incredible career up to date and is crammed with stories of his time playing Captain Jack Harkness in *Doctor Who* and *Torchwood*. Thanks to publisher Michael O'Mara Books, we have **THREE** copies – all **SIGNED** by John himself – to give away to lucky readers who can correctly answer this child-friendly question:


JOHN BARROWMAN
I Am What I Am
with Carole E. Barrowman

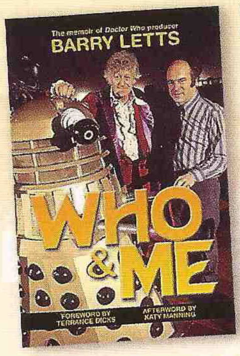
Which popular kids' television show did John feature in, back in the 1990s?

a) Live and Kicking
b) Dead and Static
c) Undead and Twitching

Call 09011 542 237 to enter, or send us your entry by post, remembering to put these tuneful words at the start of the DWM address: "MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!"

WIN! Barry Letts' autobiography!

Who and Me, the memoirs of the late Barry Letts, is available now in paperback for £10.99 and limited edition hardback, signed by Terrance Dicks and Katy Manning and with extra material for £24.99. Take a look at *www.fantomfilms.co.uk* for more details. We've one hardback and **THREE** paperbacks to give to readers who can answer this question:


The memoir of Doctor Who producer
BARRY LETTS
WHO & ME
FOREWORD BY TERRANCE DICKS
AFTERWORD BY KATY MANNING

Which *Doctor Who* story did Barry Letts return to direct in 1975?

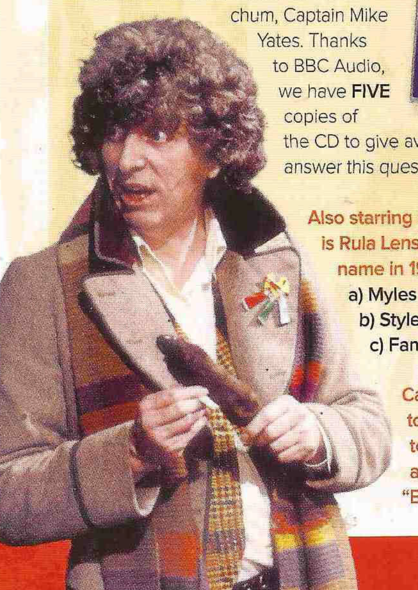
a) The Auton Invasion
b) The Android Invasion
c) The Christmas Invasion

Call 09011 542 238 to enter, or by post, by putting these flowery words at the start of the DWM address: "THE DAISIEST DAISY"

WIN! Hornets' Nest: Hive of Horror CD!

The thrilling climax to the *Hornets' Nest* series of audio adventures, *Hive of Horror*, is out now on CD priced £9.77, and is also available to download. This fifth story in the series stars Tom Baker as the Fourth Doctor and Richard Franklin as his old chum, Captain Mike Yates. Thanks to BBC Audio, we have **FIVE** copies of the CD to give away to readers who can answer this question correctly:

STARRING TOM BAKER & RICHARD FRANKLIN
DOCTOR WHO
HORNETS' NEST
HIVE OF HORROR
PAUL MAGRS
EXCLUSIVE AUDIO ADVENTURE



Also starring in *Hornets' Nest: Hive of Horror* is Rula Lenska. But what was her character's name in 1984's *Resurrection of the Daleks*?

a) Myles
b) Styles
c) Famer Giles

Call 09011 542 239 to enter, or by post, remembering to put this annoying insect noise at the start of the DWM address: "BUZZZZ!"

WIN! Mary Tamm's autobiography CD!

Mary Tamm's autobiography *First Generation* is now available as an audiobook priced £13.99. Fans of the first actress to play Romana now have the chance to win one of **FIVE** copies thanks to the kind people at Fantom Films, if they can answer this question about Mary's past:

MARY TAMM
First Generation
fantom films

Where did Mary Tamm's parents live before they moved to her birthplace of Dewsbury, West Yorkshire?

a) Westonia
b) Estonia
c) East Cheam

To enter, call 09011 542 240, or by post, remembering to put these ponderous words at the start of the DWM address: "THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY!"

HOW TO ENTER...

BY PHONE: Call the phone number on your chosen competition, and give your answer, name and address. BT calls cost 50p per call. Cost from other networks may be higher. Always ask the bill payer before calling. Competition lines open on Thursday 10 December and close at midnight on Wednesday 6 January 2010. Service Provider: Eckoh, 0870 8804869

BY POST: Send to **Doctor Who Magazine 416**, PO Box 503, Leicester, LE94 0AD. Write your answer and details on a postcard OR the back of a stuck-down envelope ONLY please (sorry, but sealed envelopes containing entries for one or several competitions will not be opened), to reach us by 6 January 2010.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Competitions are not open to employees of **Doctor Who Magazine**, printers and anyone else connected with the printers and their families. Winners will be the first correct entries drawn after the closing date. No purchase necessary. No responsibility can be accepted for postal entries that are lost or damaged. **DWM** will not enter into any correspondence. Winners' names will be available on request.

2010 Series Latest: New TARDIS Interior 'Could Be A Woman'

see **Not Wheezing But Groaning** p96

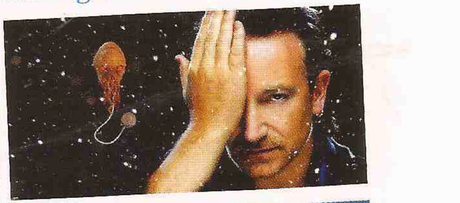
'Time Lord Victorious' sets bad example to other children's favourites

see **Inexplicable Death of Bungle** p74

Health: Swine Flu Latest

see **The Pig Slaves Have It** p114

Music: Joy As Ood Sigma Tells Bono 'Your Song Is Ending Soon' see **Et Tu, U2?** p94



space-timetelegraph

Compiled by **Sorvad**

Christmas Special 2009 – More competent than 'Digital Spy'

Succession Shock!

Steven And The Fantasy Factory

The reclusive Wonka T. Davies, yesterday.

THE SHOCKING TRUTH behind Steven Moffat's amazing elevation to showrunner of television's 'Dr Who' can at last be revealed by *Space-Time Telegraph*. It all began when five lucky 'Dr Who' writers found Golden Leeks secreted in their shooting scripts and were granted an exclusive tour of the magical mysterious dream factory where 'Dr Who' is made (Unit 3, Upper Boat Trading Estate, near the Esso garage, Cardiff). The previous showrunner, the reclusive millionaire **WONKA T. DAVIES**, greeted the writers – pretending to be a frail old man before executing three stunning acrobatic cartwheels, with a little help from Lis Sladens's stunt double and some clever TV trickery.

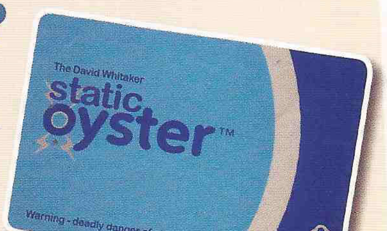
But triumph turned to tragedy as four of the writers met with unseemly accidents along the way. First to go was roly-poly **GARETH ROBERTS**, who got stuck in the pipe supplying Davies with an endless stream of black coffee and currant buns. Oddball **PAUL CORNELL** fared no better, as during a song-and-dance routine he stepped onto the conveyor belt supplying Dalek Easter eggs to Marks & Spencer and was accidentally delivered to their Stoke-On-Trent branch with a sound chip repeating 'HAVE A MERRY DALEK EASTER!' embedded in his box. The third casualty was the unusually-presentable-for-a-Who-writer **HELEN RAYNOR**, a lady, who rashly tried out some experimental spirit gum in the factory's Make-Up department and got stuck to Mrs Pakoo. They are now on display at the Blackpool 'Dr Who' Experience (open every day except Christmas Day). Edwardian inventor and serial killer **MARK GATISS** was next to fall foul of the terrors of Upper Boat, as he was transmitted through an experimental TV antenna and is currently living happily in Episode 3 of 'The Quatermass Experiment'.

That left only well-mannered poor-but-honest **STEVEN MOFFAT** on the tour – and imagine his surprise as Wonka T. Davies offered him the keys to the 'Dr Who' factory, a two-book deal with Ebury, Benjamin Cook, and a lifetime supply of Cyber-Strawberry Frubes. Unfortunately the next instant Moffat was catapulted through the roof in Davies's Great Glass Smoking Hut, along with his sadly bedridden Grandma Beth and Grandpa Piers.

Space-Time Telegraph contacted one of the factory's diminutive minions, **GARY RUSSELL**, who told us exclusively, 'Oompa-Loompa doopity-dicence, write one word about this and we'll withdraw your licence.'

Fluid Transport Links?

More 'static' journeys for London's commuters



IN A MOVE that will ping the braces of 'Dr Who' fans and send their newly-bought bow-ties spinning, London Mayor Boris Johnson today announced he was handing the running of the city's transport network to the late David Whitaker, erstwhile ex-script editor of 60s fame.

'I have total confidence in Mr Whitaker,' said Johnson. 'His far-reaching plans include a food machine on every Tube platform, a clearly labelled 'Fast Return' switch on every bendy bus, and Oyster Cards made of seti-solidified mercury that run on static electricity. You'll even be able to top them up at home with a ring of 144 perfectly aligned mirrors.'

ADVERTISEMENT

Unwanted gold? Broken gold? Murray Gold?

Wait no further – send your gold to VOGA, Planet of Gold

c/o Kellman, Nerva Beacon

and get **££££s!**

'I couldn't believe it! I walked away with 40 Gallifounds!'
– Gold Usher, Gallifrey

'With thirty groats for my arrows, all things shall soon be mine!'
– L,Peinforte, Windsor

'Now I'll never know if I was right!'
– Adric, Freighter

SMALL PRINT WARNING – Gold may cause breathing difficulties. Keep gold away from Cybermats. My Skystriker can go up as well as down.

Inside

Alcoholism

Truth Behind Cyber Hatch Discovered

Rural News

Horror Of The Swamp?

VOLUNTARY WORKERS IN Hampshire were left stunned when they discovered the top half of erstwhile 'Dr Who' script editor Eric Saward while dredging a swamp. It is thought that Saward was left behind after the filming of *Revelation of the Daleks* in 1985. The former 80s ex-editor told *Space-Time Telegraph*, 'The whole thing was the fault of the producer, John Nathan-Turner.'

44 Years Ago

A look back at past issues of *STT*!

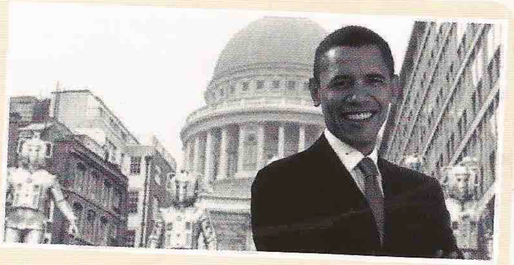
August 1965: Outraged fans, furious at the so-called 'hiatus cancellation gap' between Seasons 2 and 3, have joined forces with top pop producer Joe Meek and current hitmakers to release a protest disc. William Hartnell, Maureen O'Brien and Peter Purves have recorded 'Dr Who Is Most Distressed (Quite So)' alongside The Ivy League, Sam The Sham & The Pharoahs and Lulu, with an irresistible opening line '*Seven weeks off the air would be terribly tricky, bring back the Doctor and Steven and Vicki*'.

Daleks Up To 110%

SPACE-TIME TELEGRAPH can reveal that a new ending has been shot for an upcoming CGI remake of the 1967 'Dr Who' classic *The Evil of the Daleks*. Instead of the canny Second Doctor infusing three Daleks with the Human Factor, the new version, co-sponsored by ITV1, will see him introduce 'The X Factor' into the psychopathic Skarosians.

The infected Daleks, Alpha, Beta and Stacy Solomon, told *Space-Time Telegraph*, 'WE ARE DO-ING THIS FOR OUR MUM, WE WANT TO MAKE HER SO PROUD, IT'S ALL WE'VE EV-ER DREAMED OF, YOU HAVE NO I-DE-A HOW MUCH THIS MEANS TO US, IT'S BEEN AN A-MA-ZING JOURN-EY. KEEP PHO-NING, KEEP PHO-NING, O-BEY!' The last shot of the story, which originally saw the Doctor looking down on the burning ruins of the Dalek City with the haunting words, 'The final end…' has been tastefully updated, and will now show him congratulating the Daleks on a flawless performance, an excellent song choice, and telling them 'My word, you totally owned that stage tonight!'

"Do Not Vote In Here!"



War Lord?

Oh-bama my giddy aunt!

IN A DEVELOPMENT that will rock 'Dr Who' fans down to their mobile phone SIM cards stuffed with ill-gotten spoiler-ridden set shots that ruin things for everybody, the US Army has decided to adapt tactics used by the hero of the mildly diverting Saturday evening frightfest 'Dr Who' in military situations across the globe. Commander-in-Chief Mr Obama told *Space-Time Telegraph*, 'I have instructed my soldiers that, when confronted by armed insurrections, coups, terrorists and insurgents, they should walk out unarmed and say 'Wait!' or 'Look over there!', or 'There will be no battle here!' If that fails, and doubtless it possibly could, they must turn to their comrades and say – in a loud stage whisper – 'When I say run, run!'

Media

Put A 'Wur' After Dr W?

'DR WHO' STAR David Tennant has revealed plans for his next big role after he hangs up his time-travelling trainers in 2010 to *Space-Time Telegraph*. He is to follow the example of Jon Pertwee and play the lead in a gritty, hard-hitting, post-watershed, 21st century reimagining of 'Worzel Gummidge' – to be called 'Barbara Euphan Todd's Gummidge'. Alongside Tennant's troubled-but-cheeky scarecrow will be fellow erstwhile 'Dr Who' stars Billie Piper as Earthy Mangold, Camille Coduri as Aunt Sally, Freema Agyeman as The Crow-Woman and John Barrowman as The Saucy Nancy.

New Expenses Scandal Rocks The BBC

YET MORE TEDIOUS and irrelevant details of BBC expenses claims has reached the Pathetic Whining Desk of *Space-Time Telegraph*.

Forms submitted by original 'Dr Who' producer Miss Verity Lambert in 1964 contain the following startling claims:

2d – Hair Lacquer (J. Hill)

3'6 – Bus Fare Home (Les Structures Sonores)

Five Bob – Flowers for Carole Ann (Shepherds Bush Market)

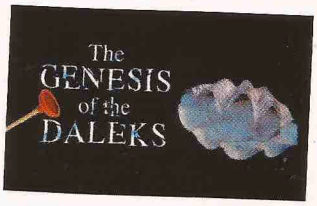
Brass Farthing – Bill's lapels, repair (wear and tear, over-clutching)

1 guinea – Wining and dining (Eileen Way)

Thruppence – Special Effects (financial year 63/4)

Hitting the wrong note: Les Structures Sonores

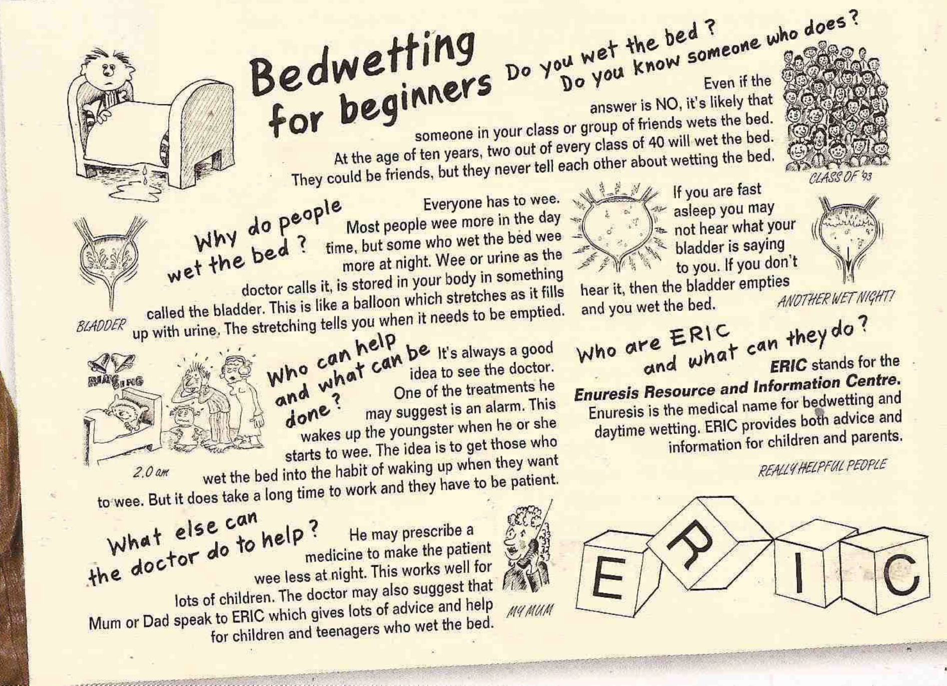
Clam-a-lot?



POLL-TOPPING SEASON 12 stormer *Genesis of the Daleks* is to be made into a musical and will début on London's glitzy West End later this year. The stage version, with music by Dudley Simpson and Same Difference, and a libretto by Terry Nation, will include songs including 'Thank You, That's What I Wanted To Know', 'Yes, I Would Do It!', 'I'll Never Eat Oysters Again' and the barnstorming finale, 'One Day Some Great Good Will Come'. The BBC is to broadcast a Saturday night search for a young star to play Sevrin the Muto. *All Norms Are Our Enemies* will begin next Spring on BBC One.

We just wanted an excuse to print this again…

Don't touch the water.
Not. One. Drop.



Bedwetting for beginners

Do you wet the bed ?
Do you know someone who does ?

Even if the answer is NO, it's likely that someone in your class or group of friends wets the bed. At the age of ten years, two out of every class of 40 will wet the bed. They could be friends, but they never tell each other about wetting the bed.

CLASS OF '93

Why do people wet the bed ? Everyone has to wee. Most people wee more in the day time, but some who wet the bed wee more at night. Wee or urine as the doctor calls it, is stored in your body in something called the bladder. This is like a balloon which stretches as it fills up with urine. The stretching tells you when it needs to be emptied.

BLADDER

If you are fast asleep you may not hear what your bladder is saying to you. If you don't hear it, then the bladder empties and you wet the bed.

ANOTHER WET NIGHT!

Who can help and what can be done ? It's always a good idea to see the doctor. One of the treatments he may suggest is an alarm. This wakes up the youngster when he or she starts to wee. The idea is to get those who wet the bed into the habit of waking up when they want to wee. But it does take a long time to work and they have to be patient.

RING RING

2.0 am

Who are ERIC and what can they do ? **ERIC** stands for the ***Enuresis Resource and Information Centre.*** Enuresis is the medical name for bedwetting and daytime wetting. ERIC provides both advice and information for children and parents.

REALLY HELPFUL PEOPLE

What else can the doctor do to help ? He may prescribe a medicine to make the patient wee less at night. This works well for lots of children. The doctor may also suggest that Mum or Dad speak to ERIC which gives lots of advice and help for children and teenagers who wet the bed.

MY MUM

E R I C

WHO ON EARTH IS...

One of the Doctor's most unforgettable adversaries on resurrecting Sil, and his feud with Jonathan Ross...

Nabil Shaban

Hello, Nabil. I last interviewed you for DWM ten years ago.
"I remember, actually. Warren Mitchell was sat on the table opposite."

Yes. How have you changed since then?
"I'm more bolshy. I've become even more left-wing, as the world generally has become more right-wing, and fascist, and police state. I'm even more hard-line. I even make jokes, on my videos on YouTube, about being a communist. I kind of do it tongue-in-cheek. I call myself a 'damn commie bastard', and say that I belong to the Damn Commie Bastard Party."

Nabil Shaban records *Mission to Magnus* – only 23 years late!

Are you a regular YouTube vlogger?
"I have a lot of scepticism about websites like YouTube and Facebook. I think they're controlled by what I call 'the enemy' – the Pentagon and that. I've had three of my YouTube videos removed. It won't be long before I'm completely banned. I'm pretty sure I'm blacklisted. I mean, I haven't worked on British TV since 2003 – apart from one project, which I initiated [*a Channel Four documentary on Viking chieftain Ivar the Boneless – Ed*] – and nothing for the BBC since 1997. They've not offered me a single job. New *Doctor Who* has been going for four years, and not once has the production office approached me about resurrecting Sil [*who he played twice on* Doctor Who *in the 1980s – Ed*]. Even when I've written to them, I haven't got a reply – or I've got a standard reply. I've never got a personal reply from Russell T Davies. Either he hates Sil, or he hates me, or there is actually a BBC blacklist with me on it. I heard years ago that MI5 has an office at the BBC, and they say something like, 'We would appreciate it if this person wasn't given work.' That was accepted knowledge during the 80s."

"I appeared with Jonathan Ross in the 90s, and then I wrote him a letter saying what a creep he was..."

Pretending that the BBC is a one-in-one-out sort of organisation [*it isn't – Ed*], who do you reckon you should be employed instead of?
"I'm annoyed that Jonathan Ross is employed by the BBC, and getting paid millions of quid. It's appalling that they squander that amount of money on a bloke who, in my personal opinion, isn't particularly talented. Actually, I find him extremely obnoxious. I appeared on a TV show with him back in the 90s, and I wrote him a letter afterwards saying what a creep he was. I'd seen him interview Madonna, and he was very sycophantic, so I accused him of being a real arse-licker. When Madonna said to him, 'You don't look anything like how I'd imagined,' he replied, 'What, do you think I look like Quasimodo?' I wrote to him and said, 'You obviously learnt nothing from interviewing me on your programme, when you come out with such a body-fascist statement!' Of course, he wrote back and said, 'How could I possibly learn anything from you? You were the most boring person I've ever had the misfortune to interview.'"

Jonathan Ross said that?!
"Yeah, I've got the letter somewhere."

Do you watch much TV these days?
"I've boycotted TV since 2003, when Britain invaded Iraq. I saw how the BBC was going along with the lies concerning those so-called 'weapons of mass destruction'."

But wasn't it a BBC journalist, Andrew Gilligan, who reported that Tony Blair's government had knowingly 'sexed up' a dossier on WOMD?
"I'm not saying that it's the entire BBC, or even *just* the BBC. I'm boycotting TV *full stop*."

Aren't you tempted to switch on anyway? C'mon, who'd know?
"My dog would know. My dog and my girlfriend. I saw half-an-hour of one of the new *Doctor Whos*, but that was by accident. Christopher Eccleston was the Doctor, and it was a Dalek story, a Dalek that was dying, and that particular half-hour, at that time, did not inspire me to want to watch more. It was a bit Spielbergish. It was too flashy, too slick, too American, too noisy, not enough character development, and no particularly interesting dialogue."

Why are you so keen to be invited back, then?
"I still love the whole concept of *Doctor Who*. I love all that it stands for."

Right. Well, Big Finish asked you to return for *Mission to Magnus* [*the second of eight audio dramatisations of previously-unmade 1980s scripts – Ed*] Can you tell us what it's about?
"This particular story is about global warming. Sil and the Ice Warriors are deliberately changing the climate in order to create a planet that's more suitable for their needs."

How would you explain Sil to DWM readers?
"He's this money-grabbing, opportunist, slimy, slug-like alien, who's totally treacherous. He's an arch-capitalist. He'll make friends with anyone if it's going to line his pockets. He's very devious, and he has no respect for anybody's life other than his own. He's a bully and a coward. To me, he represents all that's bad about the modern age. He is your archetypical monetarist, Thatcherite, Reagan, George Bush, Tony Blair villain, all rolled into one. But he's a comic figure as well. He's ludicrously bad."

Ten years ago, you said that you once sent a photo of you as Sil to lots of Labour MPs, suggesting he was the ideal Tory candidate. Which of today's public figures would you most liken Sil to?
"Probably Jonathan Ross. Probably most people now in government, in opposition, and in the White House – I don't trust any of them. They've all got a dash of Sil in them." DWM

Nabil Shaban was talking to Benjamin Cook. Mission to Magnus *is released by Big Finish on 31 December – £14.99 on CD or £12.99 to download.*

Next time...

DOCTOR WHO
MAGAZINE™

© Rex

Issue 417

7 January 2010

THE NEW-LOOK **DWM**, AVAILABLE AT WHSmith, NEWSAGENTS AND COMIC SHOPS, PRICE £4.99

The
Royal
Mint

DOCTOR · WHO

OFFICIAL MEDALS FROM THE ROYAL MINT

FROM
£9.99
ONLY

DOCTOR · WHO
THE TENTH DOCTOR MEDAL
BBC
DOCTOR FACT
DOCTOR FACT
DOCTOR · WHO

Doctor Who Medal
DRWDTBU
£9.99

All medals are 28.40mm in diameter

K9 Medal
DRWK9BU
£9.99

DOCTOR · WHO
K9 MEDAL
K9 FACT
K9 FACT
K9 FACT
DOCTOR WHO

DOCTOR · WHO
DALEK MEDAL
DALEK FACT
DALEK FACT
DALEK FACT
DOCTOR WHO

Dalek Medal
DRWDKBU
£9.99

Great stocking fillers for Doctor Who fans this Christmas

Celebrate the Tenth Doctor's era with these three medals, specially created by the Royal Mint.

ORDER NOW BEFORE TIME RUNS OUT!

GOLD AND SILVER LIMITED-EDITION MEDALS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

FJ3C

0845 60 88 555 (local rate) **www.royalmint.com/doctorfj3c**